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AND THE JOURNAL OF  
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VOL. III. NEW SERIES.

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## PREFACE TO VOL. III.

### NEW SERIES.

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It is with a lively feeling of satisfaction that we find ourselves arrived at the important stage of the completion of another volume of the ARCHAEOLOGIA CAMBRENSIS, being fully persuaded that it will in no respect suffer from a comparison with its predecessors.

A difficult task have we endeavoured to accomplish,—that of attending to the wishes, and providing proper intellectual food for the various sections of our antiquarian supporters. Herein we think that we have not been altogether unsuccessful.

Assuredly, the architectural student will find a rich treat in the elaborately written and beautifully illustrated Papers on *Kidwelly Castle* and the *Antiquities of South Pembrokeshire*.

To the genealogist the articles on *Irish Families of Welsh Extraction*, and on *The Family of Fitz-Warine*, will prove of great interest.

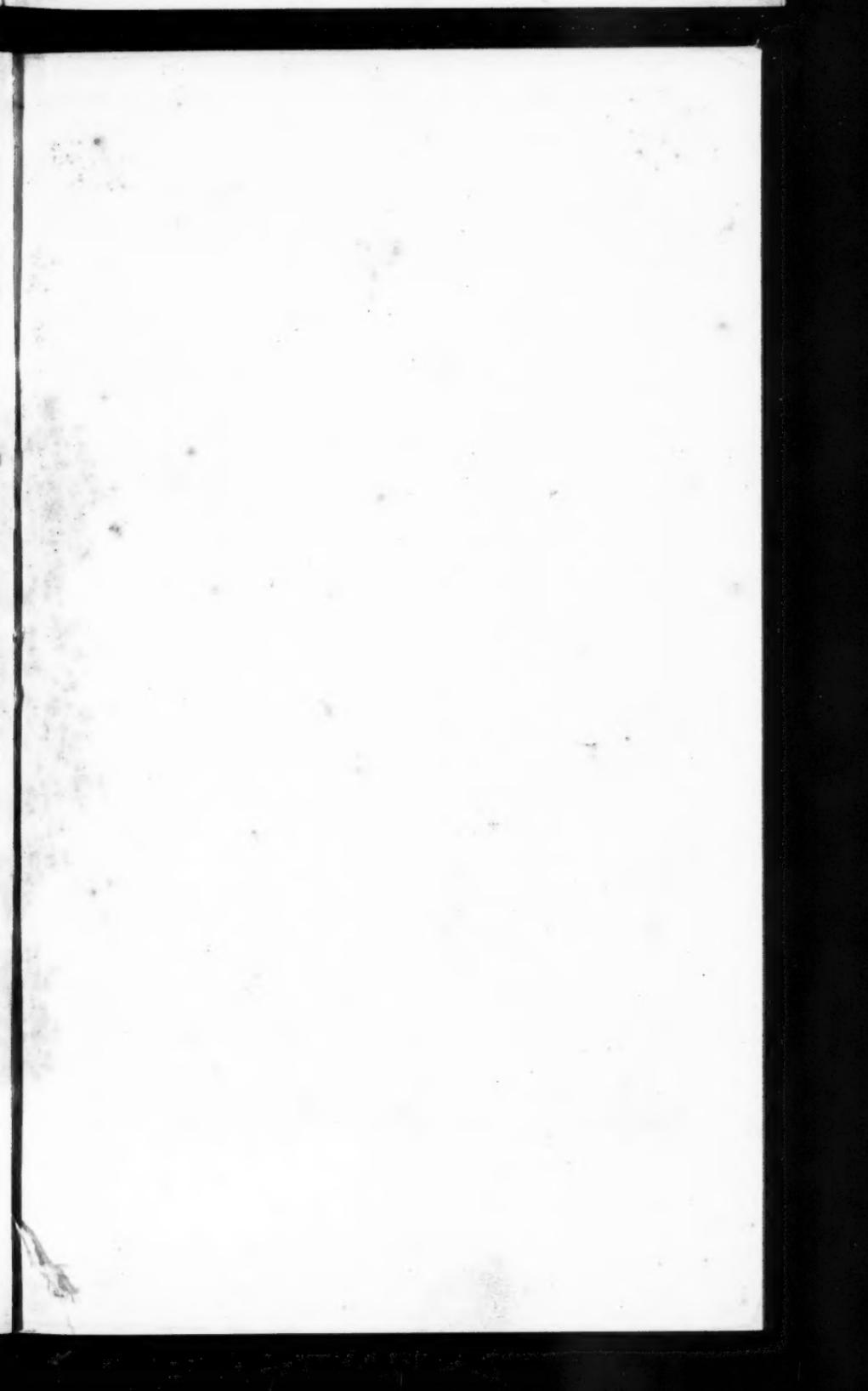
The mediæval antiquary, who is ever on the look out for dry and musty documents, will welcome with enthusiasm the *Welsh Deeds*, and *De La Roche Charters*.

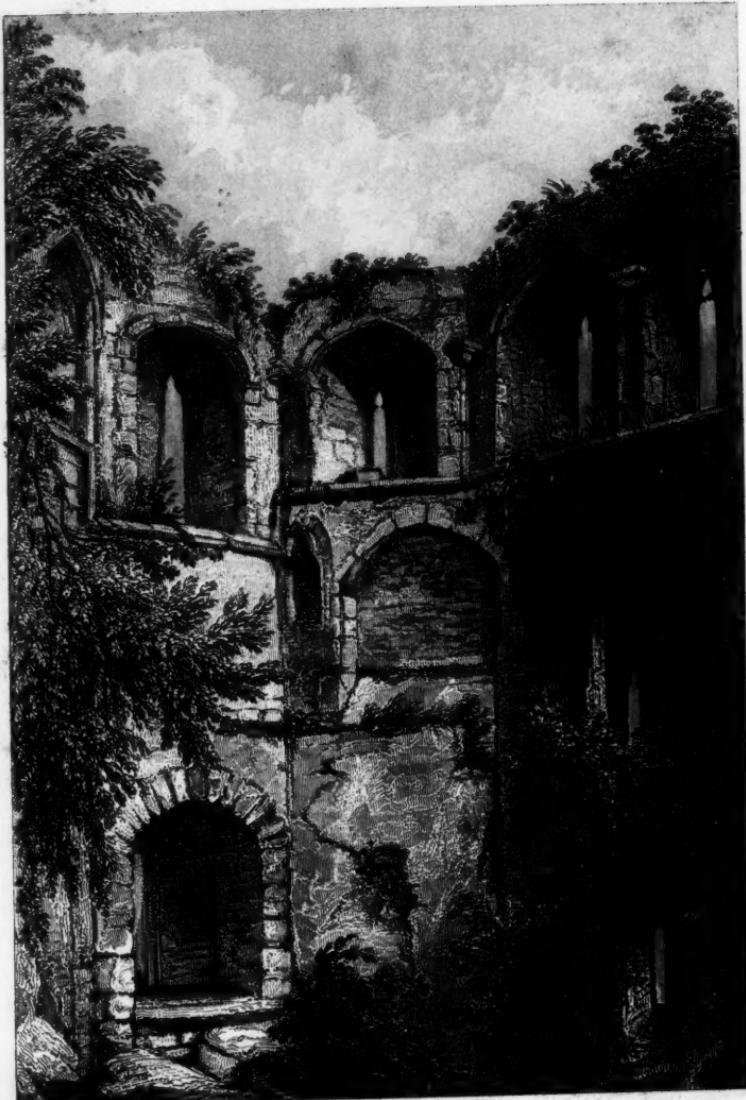
Our indefatigable correspondent Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes has supplied us with the means of keeping the Celtic archæologist in a good humour, by continuing his careful account of his examination of the Welsh tumuli.

An important feature of the present volume is the critical analyzation of the Poems of Taliesin, by the Author of the *Literature of the Kymry*. We anticipate much good from this attempt. The historical facts which Mr. Stephens educes from the compositions of the early Bards will, in a great degree, help to illustrate the obscure annals of Britain during the troubled period that succeeded the departure of the Romans, and invest those venerable remains with a value that has not hitherto been accorded to them.

The gratitude of the Members of the CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION is especially due to Lord Dungannon, and Mr. Wynne of Peniarth, for their judicious excavations at Valle Crucis Abbey during the past year, of which an interesting account is given in the Journal. May their noble and disinterested example have a wholesome effect upon others.

In conclusion, we beg to tender our thanks to our friends and correspondents for the kind manner in which they have aided us towards making the *ARCHÆOLOGIA CAMBRENSIS* worthy of its name, particularly to Lord Cawdor, the Rev. J. M. Traherne, E. Rogers, Esq., and J. Peake, Esq., who have liberally contributed towards the illustration of the same, and we earnestly hope for a continuance of similar favours.





M<sup>r</sup> Travers del<sup>t</sup>

J.H. Le Keux sc.

### KIDWELLY CASTLE.

INTERIOR OF CHAPL.

Published by R. Mason, Tenby, 1862.



*Cardiff*

## Archæologia Cambrensis.

NEW SERIES, No. IX.—JANUARY, 1852.

### KIDWELLY CASTLE.

#### DESCRIPTION.

THE reader who places before him the two sheets, 37 and 41, of the Ordnance Survey, may observe, between the ranges of Penbrè and Mynydd-Sulen on the east, and Mynydd-Garreg and Llangyndeyrn on the west, a valley of about ten miles in length, and from one and a-half to three in breadth. The head waters of its stream spring from the well known elevation of Mynydd-mawr, and its mouth opens upon the Bristol Channel, between the estuaries of the Llwchwr and the Towy, in the bay of Caermarthen.

This is the valley of the Gwendraeth (white-strath)—

"Gwendra that with such grace delib'ately doth glide"—one of the larger rivers of Caermarthen. West of this valley, between it and the Towy, but of much smaller dimensions than either, is a second valley and stream, tributary to the former, and bearing, like it, the name of Gwendraeth ("fach," or "the less," being its distinction). The rivers meet in a sort of estuary, chiefly formed by the "Gwendraeth-fawr."

These valleys are traversed by the roads leading from the strait and tower of Llwchwr to the castles of Llanstephan and Caermarthen, as well as by the northern and

originally Roman road from Swansea to Caermarthen, so that the district lies in the way between England and Pembroke and Cardigan, and was in consequence known at an early period to, and often crossed by, the Norman invaders of South Wales, who attached considerable importance to its possession.

The castle and town of Kidwelly are placed upon either bank of the Gwendraeth-fach, on the verge of the hill country, here divided from the sea by a marsh of a quarter of a mile in breadth.

The new town, parts of which however are of high antiquity, with its church, and some remains of a priory, stands upon the left bank, and is traversed by the old road from Llwchwr to Caermarthen. A mile east of the town, the road crosses the Gwendraeth-fawr by an ancient and narrow bridge. Close west of the town a similar bridge crosses the Gwendraeth-fach, just below the castle, with which it is connected by a suburb, said by Leland to be the original town, and, in his time, enclosed within a wall with three gates.

The castle stands from eighty to 100 feet above the river, on the right bank, here steep and rocky. It thus protects and overawes the town and priory, which are opposite to and below it. The eastern face is defended naturally by the steep and the river. On the other sides the defences are wholly artificial. The castle weir and a leat lead the water from the river, cutting off a bend, to the mill, which is placed between the castle and the town bridge.

Kidwelly is distant from the tower of Llwchwr, eleven miles; from the castles of Llanstephan and Caermarthen, five and nine miles; and from those of Dryslwyn and Dynevor, thirteen and eighteen miles.

The Gwendraeth seems to have derived a part of its name from the "traeth" or "strath" of meadow land found along its course, the fertility of which may have led to the establishment of the town and priory of Kidwelly.

Cydweli is the name of one of the three commots of

Eginoc, one of the four cantrefs or hundreds of the ancient county of Caermarthen, which included Gower. The adjacent commot of Carnwyllion, north of Kidwelly, contained the strong pass of the same name, and is often mentioned in local records.

The lordship of Kidwelly extends from the Llwchwr to the Towy, and includes the parliamentary borough of Llanelli, and the municipality of Kidwelly. The franchise of the corporation is reputed to extend beyond the town, around the castle precinct. Of this franchise the mayor is the lord, holding his courts in the town. The courts for the lordship are held in the castle.

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Kidwelly is a castle of the Edwardian or concentric type, slightly modified from the perfect examples of Beaumaris and Caerphilly. It is composed of the "castle proper," containing the inner and outer ward, and the "outworks," containing the southern and northern platforms.

The castle is in plan nearly a semicircle, the main ditch forming the curve, and the cliff and river the chord. The long axis lies north and south, and the gateways are at opposite ends. The whole work measures 440 yards, by from ninety to 130, and covers about three acres.

The INNER WARD contains the *drum towers*, the *curtains*, the *chapel tower*, the *hall*, and the *kitchen*.

The *drum towers* are four;—the north-west, or black tower; the south-west, or Astragun tower; the south-east, or Margaret Dun tower; and the north-east tower. All are of one date, and nearly of one pattern,—cylindrical, thirty feet diameter, with walls nine feet thick. They are forty-four feet high, with a battlement, and each has a well stair at the gorge, terminating above in a square turret, the top of which is fifty-three feet high. Each contains a "souterrain," and three stages of circular chambers, looped outwards, usually with three openings. There are also the usual "sewer chambers" in the walls, and doors opening upon the ramparts of the

curtains. There are also some points of difference. The chambers of the south-west tower are vaulted ; the rest have timber floors. In this tower the souterrain is entered by a long gallery in the wall, common to the south curtain and the kitchen, opening from the porter's lodge. This is the "porter's prison," and possibly the vaulting was to allow the whole tower to be used for this purpose. The north-west tower is cylindrical below, but above, it passes into a sort of heart-shaped plan, presenting towards the gorge a double bow, with a flat recess between. These two towers cap the angle of their curtains, and are engaged in about one-fifth of their circumference.

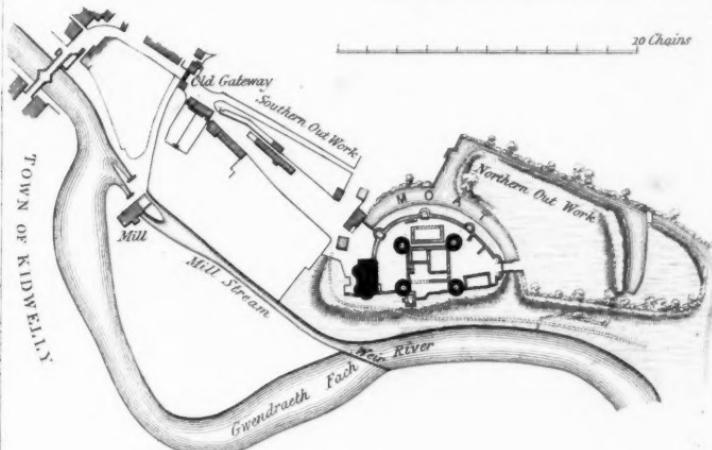
The north-east and south-east towers are placed, not at the angles, but on the faces of the north and south curtains, close to their east ends, and on the edge of the river cliff. Besides their junction with the curtains of the inner ward, they are connected north and south with that part of the curtain of the outer ward which is built along the edge of the cliff. The south-east tower is closely connected with the chapel tower, and has also a door opening upon the curtain of the outer ward, leading to the great gate-house.

The *curtains* are four in number. That to the east is irregular, low, and weak ; the cliff has been considered its defence. The other three are six feet thick, and eighteen feet high to the top of the parapet. Along each is a rampart walk, having a parapet pierced with loops and a rere wall. The curtains enclose a quadrangle 80 yards square.

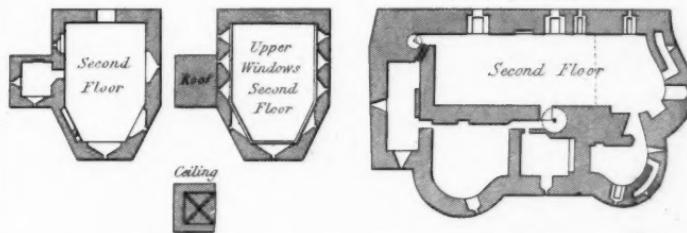
The north curtain is pierced by a gateway, six feet wide, with a low drop arch, and the groove of a portcullis worked from the rampart ; it is near the east end of the wall, and nearly opposite the northern gate-house. This curtain is pierced by two loops, which seem to have been defended from the ground level. The west curtain has three loops, two of which opened from the kitchen.

The south curtain is pierced near its centre by a gateway, ten feet wide, with a low drop arch and portcullis

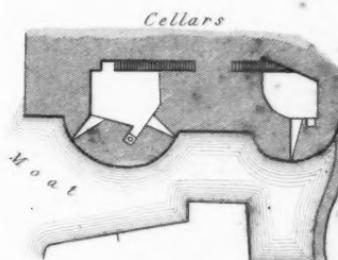
GENERAL SURVEY.



MAIN BUILDING.



PLANS OF CHAPEL.



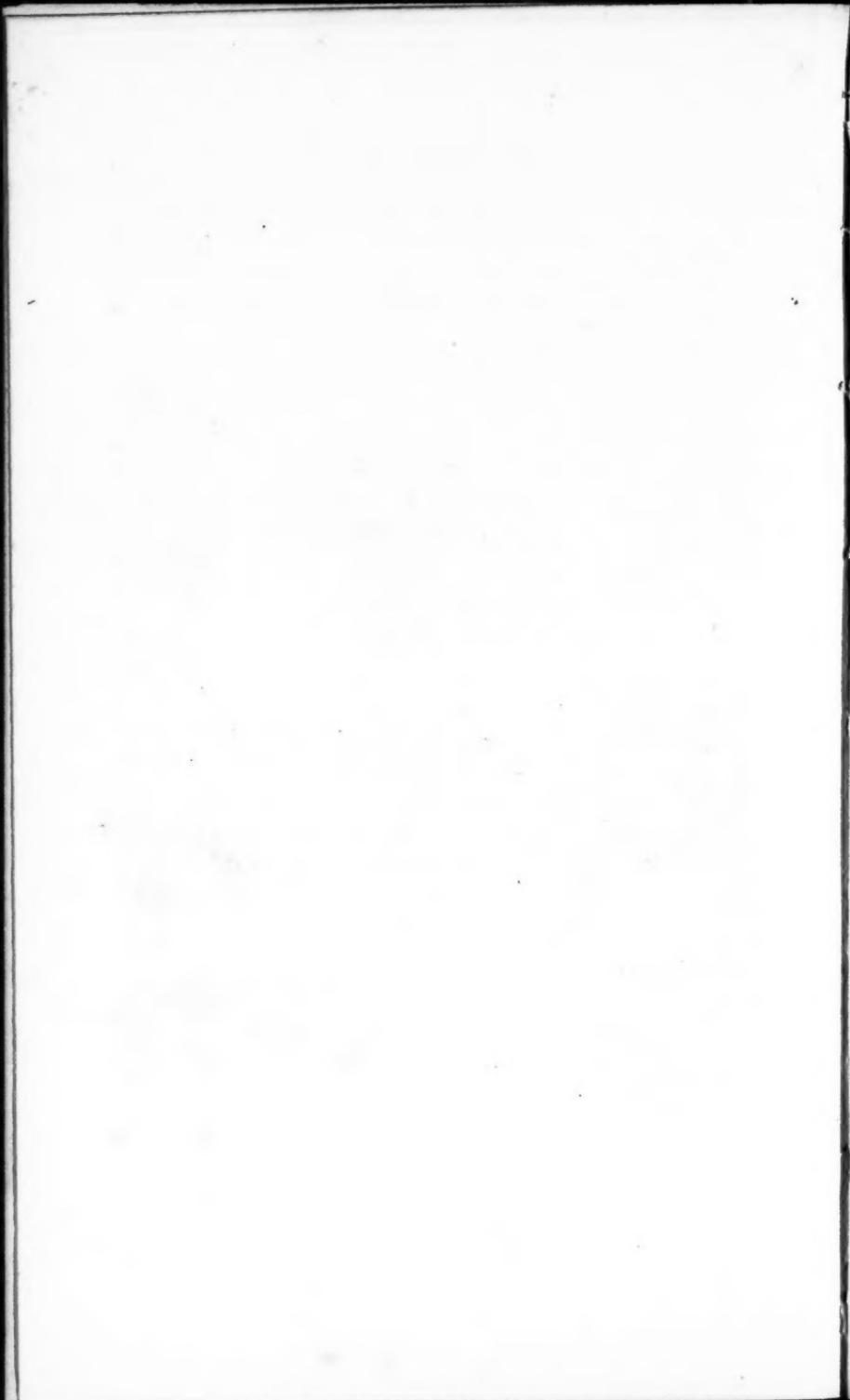
H. Smyth del.

J.H. Le Keux sc.

KIDWELLY CASTLE.

Published by R. Mason, Tenby, 1851.





groove. The wall has been thickened to give depth to the gateway, and possibly to allow of the superstructure of a low tower above it. This is the principal entrance to the inner, and opens towards the great gate-house of the outer, ward.

The *chapel tower*, forming part of the east curtain, deserves particular attention. It is an oblong building, springing from a rectangular base; but, as the two outer or eastern angles are formed by buttresses, each of which is a half pyramid, cut diagonally, the plan of the upper part is an oblong, with the two eastern angles removed, so as to form an apse. As this tower projects some way down the steep, its outer face is fifty-six feet high, and its inner only twenty feet. Its top is twenty-four feet lower than that of the contiguous south-east tower.

Against the south side of the chapel tower is a small square projection, containing a vestry. This does not rise to the clerestory.

The chapel tower has three floors, all ceiled with timber. The interior is twenty-six feet from the altar to the west end, and eighteen feet broad. The east wall is six feet thick; the west wall, three feet. In the south-east corner is a mural gallery, leading to a sewer chamber below the vestry. In the north-east corner is a well stair. The ground floor is below the level of the inner ward, and is entered by a curved stair from the adjacent hall. The next, or ground floor, is on the level of, and entered directly from, the hall. Above this, and on the rampart level, is the *chapel*. This includes two tiers of windows, the upper being a clerestory, and is entered by a west door. The east window is common to both. It is a long narrow and acutely trefoiled loop, set in a broad recess, which nearly occupies the whole east division of the apse, and has a flat drop arch with a plain rib.

In the face next south of the altar place is a small trefoiled piscina, and next to this a broad recess or sedile, under a drop arch. On the south side a small acutely pointed door leads to the vestry, and west of this is another recess, with a flat drop arch, and in it, close to

its east side, a loop, long since blocked up, intended to defend the nook between the vestry and the south-east tower, and to rake the adjacent curtain. There is also a trefoiled loop in the north wall, and a door, long closed up.

The clerestory is lighted by nine windows, three on each side, and three, including that to the east, in the apse. They are all alike,—long, narrow, acutely trefoiled openings, within broad recesses, plainly ribbed, and with flat drop arches. All rest inside upon a string, a filleted half round, which dips to pass under the east window. Between each pair of windows is a plain corbel block for the roof timbers. There is nothing, save the battlements, above the chapel. The walls have been stuccoed. The west wall has neither ashlar dressings, nor string course, and is of different date and inferior work to the rest of the tower.

The *hall*, sixty feet by twenty-five, filled up with the retiring room the whole east side of the inner ward. Its south end is formed by the south-east tower, the circular face of which has been patched and plastered to present a flat surface towards the hall, and this addition shows still the height and pitch of the hall roof. The west wall of the chapel forms part of the east wall of the hall; and in another part of this, which was also the outer wall towards the river, are traces of a window recess, like those of the chapel. Near this, also connected with the chapel, is a projecting space from the curtain, which may have been a sort of oriel or small chamber attached to the hall. In the west wall, at the south end, is an ashlar door or window jamb. The west wall is destroyed.

The *retiring room* is of the breadth of the hall, and thirty feet long. It communicates with the north-east tower. Its west wall is tolerably perfect. It has been stuccoed, and includes a door. The cross wall, and perhaps the place of its door opening into the hall, may be traced. A trefoiled and recessed loop, of the date of those in the chapel, remains on the east side, in the curtain; and close south of it is the fire-place, with a carved base

to the chimney shaft. The whole of the east curtain seems to have been employed to carry the roofs of the hall and retiring room, and was probably defended by a battlement accessible from the roof gutter. The commanding position of the north-east and chapel towers, and the steep rise from the river, would render this the least accessible side of the castle.

The *kitchen* is placed opposite to the hall, in the south-west corner of the court. It is thirty feet by seventeen feet, and appears from its remaining gable to have had a highly pitched roof. At each end, north and south, is a large fire-place, with magnificent tunnels. On the west side, which is formed by the curtain, a window of narrow opening but broad recess opens into the outer ward. Towards the south end is a third fire-place, of smaller dimensions, apparently intended for stewing, and similar operations, like a modern hot closet.

In the east wall is a narrow doorway, placed within and on one side of a wider arch, which at breast high is opened to its full breadth. This seems to have been devised to allow servants to carry out large dishes without opening a doorway of unnecessary breadth. On each side of this door are low, broad openings, evidently intended for buttery hatches.

The north-west angle of this ward is occupied by an enclosure forty-five feet square, of which the two curtains form two sides. It is walled in, and may have contained offices or barracks.

The OUTER WARD is nearly semicircular, the inner ward being built upon the middle of its chord. Its parts are the *great* and *lesser gate-houses*, the *curtains*, the *mural towers*, and the *offices*. The inner ward has no ditch, and the space between the walls of the two wards is, on the north side, ninety feet; on the west side, sixty feet; and, on the south side, eighty feet.

The *great gate-house* is a fine pile of building. It is an oblong mass, eighty feet broad by fifty deep, and sixty-two high. The gateway is eleven feet high, and eight feet broad, and has a high drop arch. It is placed in a

very flat, segmental, arched recess, twenty feet high. The sill of the doorway is twelve feet above the bottom of the ditch, and on either side it is flanked by a conical round tower, twenty-four feet in diameter below, and twenty feet above. Above the gateway, between and on a level with the top of the towers, runs a bold machicolation of three flat arches upon two corbels.

The gate-house has a circular projection eastward towards the river ; and, at its north-west angle, a square turret terminates in a watch-tower, which rises ninety-three feet above the court, and is known as "Pigin tower."<sup>1</sup>

The portals, both towards the field and towards the court, have plain chamfered ribs in ashlar ; the portal vault is turned in rubble, with a portcullis groove at either end. The gates open inwards, so that the gate-house could be defended on either side. There are also three chases in the vault, intended for the passage of gratings. The middle one appears to have been long closed up.

The drawbridge dropped across the moat, here reduced sixteen feet, upon a pier connected with the barbican.

Entering by the great gate, on the right and left are dungeons and guard chambers, with loops commanding the approach. The doorways are small, with arches nearly half round, or very slightly pointed. One chamber on the right contains a large domed water tank below the floor, two singular recesses in the wall, and a sewer room. A well stair at the north-west angle leads to the first floor, which is also reached by an exterior and state staircase from the court, under which is a porter's lodge. The subterranean chambers, and those on the ground floor are vaulted.

The first, or principal floor, contains a state room, forty feet by seventeen feet, with two large windows opening upon the court, and a fire-place between them. The windows appear to have been of two lights, trefoiled,

<sup>1</sup> From "Pigwn," a turret, or beacon, in Welsh.—H. H. K.

and they are placed in large, flat, segmental recesses. The roof has been of timber, flat, and rather low. On the same floor are three attendants' rooms, and a portcullis chamber; and on the east side, over the tank room, is a vaulted kitchen, with a large fire-place and oven. From the kitchen a small door leads to the east rampart, and along it to the south-east drum tower. Two well staircases lead to the second floor, which contains also a large chamber, with windows of two lights, and trefoiled, opening upon the court, and a fire-place. Here also are several bedrooms, with doorways of carved ashlar. This floor seems intended for the accommodation of persons of condition. The well stair at the north-west angle is continued upwards to the watch tower; and from near this stair a narrow door leads to the rampart of the curved curtain, and so to the mural towers of the outer ward.

The watch tower is considerably higher than any other part of the castle, and commands an extensive view over both sea and land.

The *lesser* or *northern gate-house* is in great part destroyed, and appears to have been hastily built. It is on a small scale, and composed only of two half round towers, the back or gorge walls of which, and part of the portal, have been destroyed. There appears to have been an upper story entered by a staircase in the adjacent western curtain. The portal arch is gone; but there are traces of a drawbridge which worked between two side walls, looped to rake the ditch. That on the east remains. The portal was ten feet wide, and the bridge dropped with a span of about eighteen feet upon a pier still remaining, and projecting from the counterscarp of the fosse. The bridge walls are later than the towers, and these probably than the curtain. This gateway is placed at the north extremity of the outer ward, but a few yards from the river bank. It appears to be an addition.

The *curtain* of the outer ward is in three parts; one, 330 feet long, and curved, encloses the ward on the west or landward side, and connects the gate-houses with the

mural towers. This wall is six feet thick, and twenty feet high, and is defended by the main fosse. Besides openings from the gate-houses, there is a direct access to this rampart from the court by a mural staircase built against the wall. The rampart walk is protected by a parapet and a rere wall, both of which, to give breadth to the walk, are thrown out upon corbels or false machicolations.

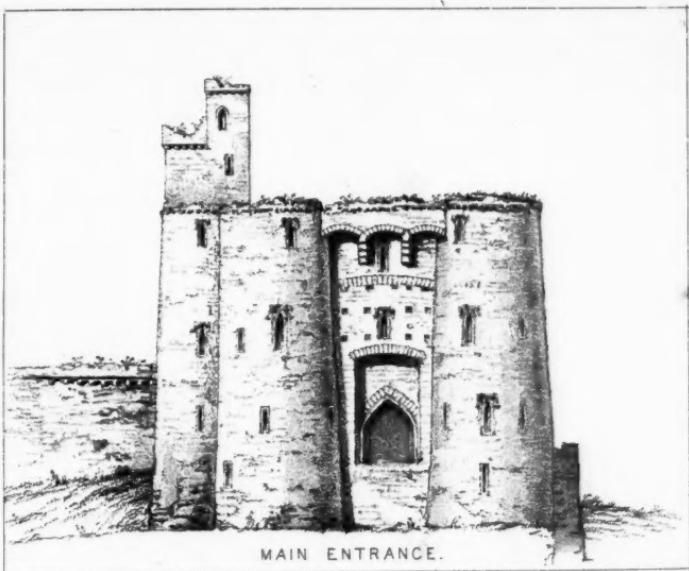
The second part of the curtain is straight, or nearly so, and extends fifty feet in length along the river cliff, from the great gate-house to the south-east drum tower. Its rampart is accessible from each end. This wall is thirty feet high, and seven feet thick.

The third portion of the curtain also runs along the river cliff, and extends ninety feet from the north-east drum tower to the north gate-house, near which it makes a salient angle. Between this angle and the gate it is five feet thick; elsewhere, only two feet. Possibly there was a tower at the angle.

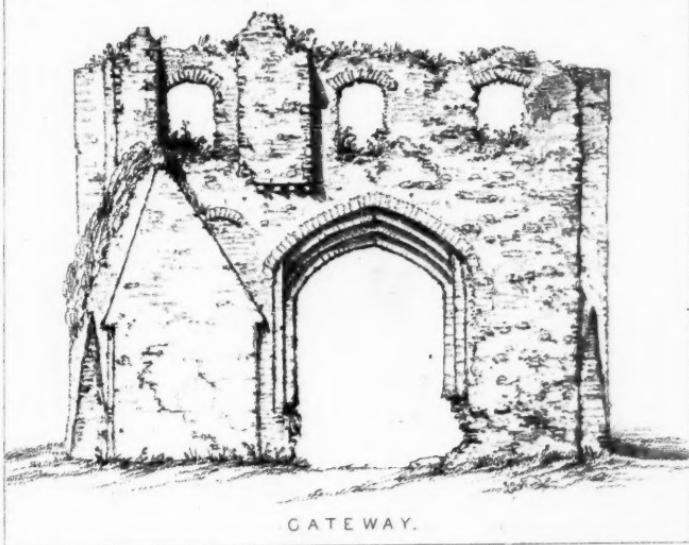
The mural towers are three in number, all placed in the western curtain. They are half round, thirty feet high, twenty-two feet in diameter, with an external projection of eight feet, and a slight square projection within, formed by the gorge wall. They have a ground floor, looped, a first floor with a fire-place, and a chamber on the level of the rampart walk, and forming a part of it. The walls are five feet thick. The middle tower of the three has fallen into the fosse. The masonry of these towers is rude, and they are ill bonded into the wall.

The *offices* in this ward consist in the walls of a detached building, sixty-five feet by thirty feet, with high gables, placed west of the inner ward; another room, sixty feet by thirty-five feet, built against the river curtain, near the northern gate-house; and some out-buildings, kitchens probably, and a bake-house, built against the curved curtain, close west of the same gate-house. These buildings were probably intended for the accommodation of the garrison.

The *main ditch* sweeps round the north, west, and



MAIN ENTRANCE.



GATEWAY.

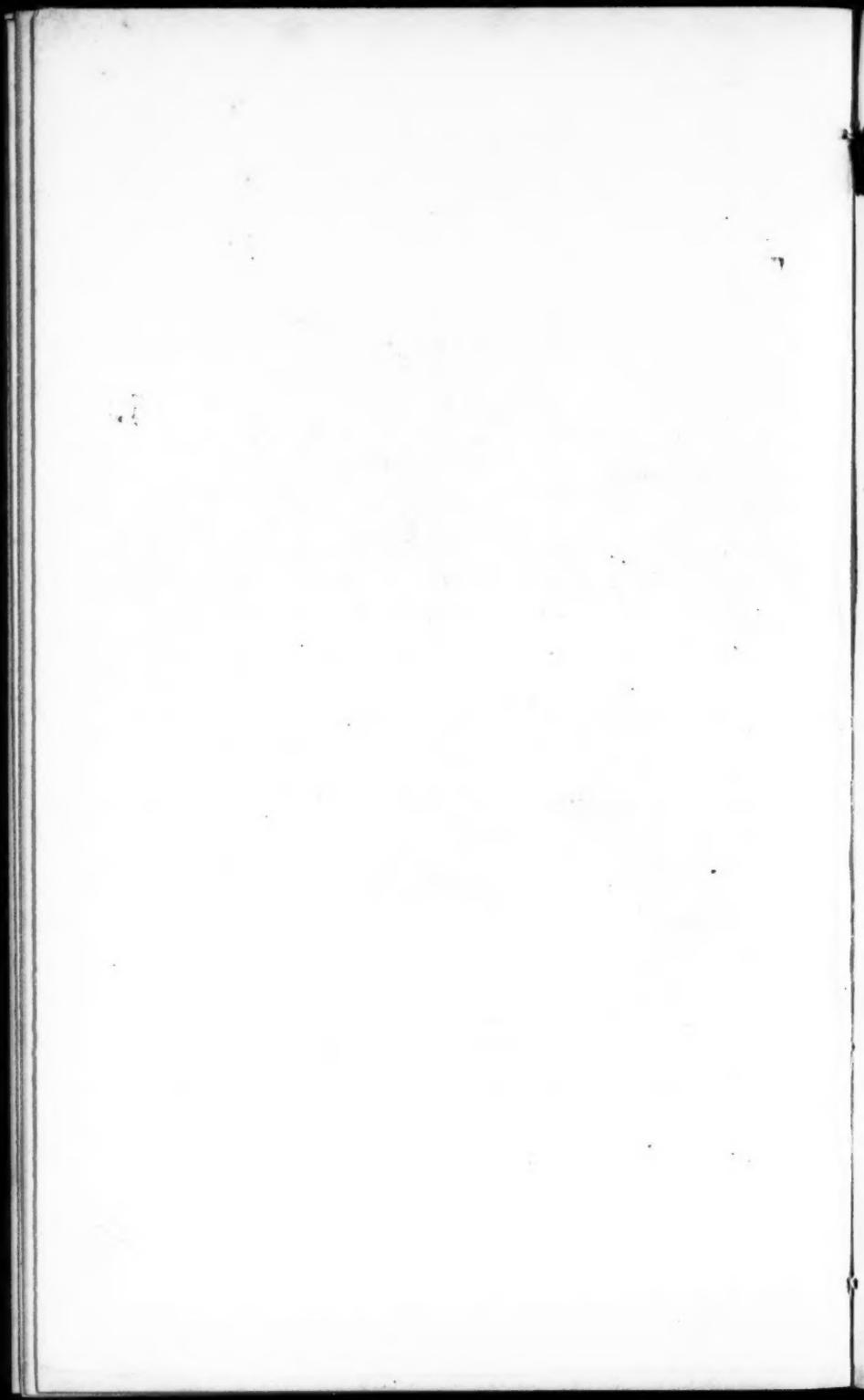
H. Stoyeth del.

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### KIDWELLY CASTLE.

Published by H. Mason: Tenby, 1862.





south sides of the outer ward, opening upon the river cliff at, and rising towards, each end. The opening at the south-east end, near the great gate-house, is closed by a *bâtardeau*, which seems to have been embattled towards the river, and to have been approached from the barbican. There are some traces of a similar wall at the other end, next the north gate-house. This ditch is high above the river, but is fed by land waters, and part of it is still wet. It is about thirty feet broad, and of considerable depth. Westward it gives off a branch which divides the north and south outworks, and communicates with the ditches of the former.

The *barbican* appears, from the traces of its foundations, to have been a small circular tower. It occupied a rocky knoll on the counterscarp of the main ditch, opposite the great gateway, and on the edge of the steep bank of the river. It evidently was intended to cover the drawbridge; and, to force the approach to this entrance, to pass exposed to the fire of the adjacent western curtain. This work seems to have been cut off from the other outworks by a dry ditch, or covered way, leading from the river, south-west of the barbican towards the main ditch.

The *outworks* are divided into north and south platforms by the branch of the main ditch already mentioned.

The *south platform* is defended on the east by the mill leat. It was walled in, and seems to have been about 170 yards long by 130 yards broad. Part of the wall remains on the west side, and on the north, along the edge of the branch ditch. At the south end the approach still lies through the *outer gate-house*, part only of which is destroyed. The portal, a drop arch with portcullis grooves, remains; above it are three windows, with flat, segmental arches. From the sill of the central window a hole opens upon the outside of the portal, probably for the passage of missiles. The building has a ground and upper floor. There are no traces of ditch or drawbridge. The work is rubble. There does not appear to have been any ashlar. The style is Perpendicular—possibly of the

date of the great gate-house, probably later. Grose gives a drawing of this gate-house in 1786, in which it appears much in its present condition.

The *northern platform* covers the north and west quarters of the castle. It measures about 130 yards long by ninety broad, and is enclosed within a wet ditch, a branch of which nearly cuts off its northern portion, leaving a narrow neck towards the river, across which lay the approach to the south entrance. Within the ditches of this work are high banks, and indications of a slight wall, and perhaps of a tower, near the entrance passage.

This castle has sustained less injury than might have been expected. It has been dismantled, and the iron work and timber removed, but none of its towers or walls appear to have been blown up. The mural tower, missing from the outer ward, has probably slipped into the ditch from some defect in its foundation.

The castle is easy of access and examination, not being overgrown with ivy or brushwood.

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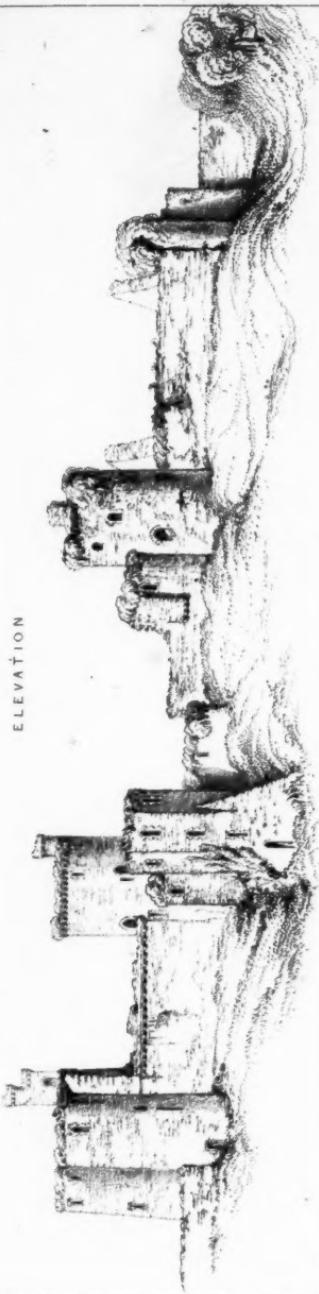
The details of Kidwelly afford some general indications of the age of its several portions. There is nothing which can safely be pronounced to be Norman work, although no doubt the present was preceded by a structure partaking both of this and the Early English style.

The general plan or arrangement of the castle seems, from its style, to be of one date—probably that of Henry III., or early in the reign of Edward I. The chapel is of this age. Its west wall however appears, from the peculiarities of its bond, to be of earlier date than the rest, and of the same date with the south-eastern drum tower, say 1260–1280, which would be the date of all the towers and curtains of the inner ward, for all are in the same style.

The great hall seems a little later than the south-eastern tower, the face of which has been flattened to suit its gable.

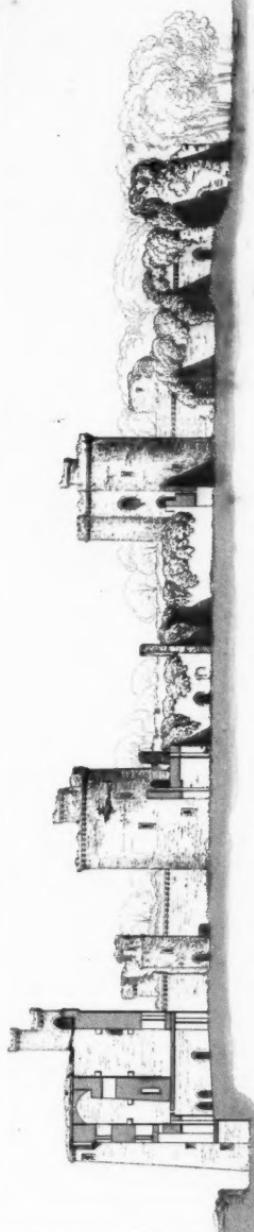
The walls and mural towers of the outer ward may be

ELEVATION



N. Smith delv.

SECTION



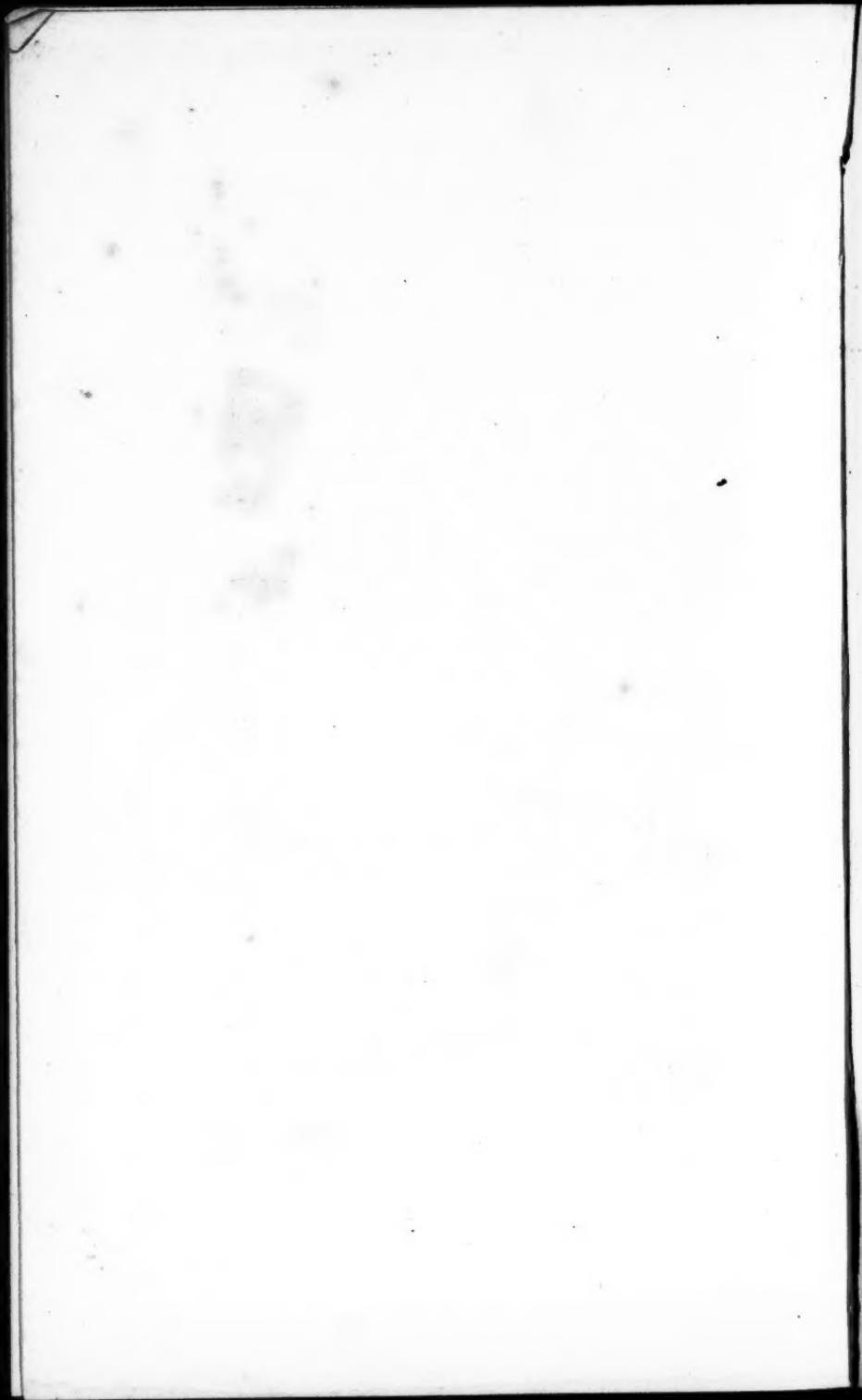
height of roof

J. Bell. Esq. Sc.

EDDINGTON HALL CASTLE.

Published by J. MacLean, Taunton, 1852.

UNIV.  
OF.  
MICH.



a little later than the inner ward. That they are part of the original plan may be inferred from the want of strength in the inner gate-houses.

The great gate-house is decided, but Early, Perpendicular, perhaps of the reign of Richard II. or Henry IV., 1388–1400. Pigin tower is a later addition.

#### PARTICULARS RELATING TO THE HISTORY OF KIDWELLY CASTLE.

The name of Kydwelly, or Cydwelhi, is Welsh. Leland, whose etymologies are not infallible, derives the name from "Cathwelli," or "Cattalectus," because Cattas used to make his bed in an oak there! Others explain "Cyd" to mean an "Aber," or junction of waters. The town is no doubt of Welsh origin, and of high antiquity.<sup>2</sup>

This does not apply to the castle, which, in its present form at least, is of later date, and the site of which, though naturally strong, was not that which a Celtic engineer would have selected.

The castle is supposed to have been founded by a certain William de Londres, one of the twelve Norman knights who, in 1091, assisted Fitzhamon in the conquest of Glamorgan, and who is recorded afterwards to have pushed his arms into Caermarthen, no doubt when, in 1093, the Normans ravaged Gwyr, Kidwelly, and Ystrad Tywy, and then to have won from the Welsh the lordships of "Kydwelly and Carnwilthion."—[*Powel*, 32.] In Glamorgan, this William is known as the founder of the castle of Ogmore, the Norman keep of which, though injured, is still standing. It is probable that his works at Kidwelly were of a less solid character, else all traces of them could scarcely have disappeared.

It is possible that the gain of de Londres was confined to the town and suburb of Kidwelly, for, in 1100, Henry I. wrested from Iorwerth ap Blethyn his lands, and gave to Howel ap Grono the districts of Strath-Twy, Kidwelly, and Gower. Howel however was, in 1102, slain by the

<sup>2</sup> The region of "Cetgueli" is mentioned by Nennius, and in *Brut y Tynysogion*, A.D. 991, also in the *Annales Cambriæ*, viii.—H. H. K.

Normans, who had already taken from him the castle of Rydcors.—[*Powel*, 124.]

In 1113 Griffith ap Rhys, prince of South Wales, took Caermarthen, and retreated upon his stronghold in Strath-Twy, whence he marched upon Gower. William de Londres deserted Kidwelly and fled. The Welsh ravaged the lands and burnt the castle [*Powel*, 145], which then could hardly have been a regular Norman fortress. After this followed a period of tranquillity, and Maurice de Londres had a park at Kidwelly, and preserved his venison strictly. On one side of the park, next the sea, were large sheep pastures. His wife, wishing to have some of the deer destroyed, caused wool to be inserted into the bowels of some of the stags, and then showed it in proof that they destroyed the sheep; on which Maurice allowed the deer to be attacked with dogs.—[*Giraldus Cambrensis*, i. 168.] On the death of Henry I., 1135, while Griffith ap Rhys was absent in North Wales, Gwenllian his wife led an army into Kidwelly. She was defeated and put to death by Maurice de Londres, its lord, and by Geoffrey, constable to the bishop. Her eldest son, Morgan, was slain, and his brother, Maelgon, was taken.—[*Giraldus Cambrensis*, i. 168.] “The battle field,” says the editor of *Giraldus*, “is still called ‘Maes Gwenllian,’ and a tower in the castle, ‘Twr Gwenllian.’” In 1145, there were already castles at Llanstephan and Dynevor, and in 1150, at Llwchwr.

The pedigree of De Londres has not been clearly recorded, but the descent of Kidwelly is nearly, if not quite, as follows:—

I.—WILLIAM, the founder, was father of, II.—SIMON, father of another, III.—WILLIAM, whose son and heir was, IV.—MAURICE de Londres, contemporary with Henry I. Grose mentions a THOMAS de Londres, *temp.* John, who was lord of Ogmore, Kidwelly, and East Garston; and there was a certain HENRY de Londres, Archbishop of Dublin, called by the people, “scorch-villein.” Maurice seems to have left a daughter and heiress, V.—HAWISIA, who married, 29 Henry III., Patrick de Cadurcis or Chaworth, who died 1257, son of Pagan de C., and grandson of Patrick de C., living

1194, whose father, Patrick, came in with the Conqueror.  
—[*Dugdale*, i. 517. *Nich. Syn.*] They had issue—

VI.—PAYNE de Chaworth, son and heir, æt. 13, 42 Henry III. He married Isabel, daughter of William Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, and died, 7 Edward I., 1278, s. p. VI. 2.—Patrick, who carried on the succession. VI. 3.—Harvey. VI. 4.—Eve; and VI. 5.—Anne.

VI. 2.—PATRICK de Chaworth, died 1282 [*Nich. Synop.*], leaving issue a daughter and heir,—

VII.—MAUD de Chaworth, who married, 27 Edward I., Henry of Lancaster, second son of Edmund, Earl of Lancaster, younger son of Henry III. He succeeded his elder brother, Thomas (beheaded 1322), and obtained his earldom of Lancaster, 1 Edward III., 1327. He died, 22nd September, 19 Edward III., 1345, and was buried at Leicester. They had issue—

VIII.—Henry, son and heir. VIII. 2.—Maude, married first, William de Burgh, Earl of Ulster; secondly, Ralph, son and heir of Ufford, Earl of Suffolk. VIII. 3.—Blanch married Lord Wake. VIII. 4.—Isabel, a nun at Ambresbury. VIII. 5.—Jane, married Lord Mowbray. VIII. 6.—Mary, married Lord Percy.

VIII.—HENRY, Duke of Lancaster, married Isabel, daughter of Henry, Lord Beaumont, and died 24th March, 35 Edward III., 1361. They had issue two daughters, coheirs.

IX.—Maude Plantagenet, married first, Ralph, son and heir of Ralph, Lord Stafford; secondly, William, Duke of Zealand and Bavaria. She died a widow, s. p., 35 Edward III., 1362.

IX. 2.—BLANCHE Plantagenet, daughter and final heir, married 14th kal. June, 33 Edward III., John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster. She died 1369. He died 3rd February, 22 Richard II., 1399. Their only son and heir was—

X.—HENRY of Bolingbroke, King of England as Henry IV., who, by act of parliament, caused the estates of the House of Lancaster to be settled distinct from the crown, although both have since descended together.

Although the legal ownership of Kidwelly remained always in the direct posterity of the first De Londres, the following extracts will show that they had not always actual possession :—

In 1149, Cadell ap Griffith ap Rhys fortified Caer-  
marthen, and marched on Kidwelly, whence he returned  
in safety, having wasted and destroyed the country. He

died in 1175.—[*Powel*, 168.] In 1190, Rhys ap Griffith gained Abercorra (Laugharne), St. Clears, and Llanstephan, and made Kidwelly more handsome and strong than his other castles.—[*Brut-y-Tywys.*, 580. *Giraldus Cambrensis*, i. 9.] In 1215, in the reign of John, Prince Rhys, son of Griffith ap Rhys, marched on Kidwelly, and razed the castles of Carnwylhion and Llwchwr,—[*Powel*, 239]; and in the following year, 1216, Prince Llewelyn overran South Wales, and gave, with other lands, to Rhys Vychan, the commots of Kidwelly and Carnwylhion.—[*Powel*, 241.]

In 1222, during the absence of William Marshall, Earl of Pembroke, in Ireland, Prince Llewelyn attacked his castles. On the earl's return, the prince dispatched his son to check his advance, while he marched to Kidwelly, where, learning that the magistrates intended to betray him, he burned the town, sparing neither church nor religious house, and advanced to meet the earl at Caermarthen, where they had a skirmish.—[*Powel*, 247.] In 1231, Kidwelly was again burned by Llewelyn.—[*Powel*, 251.]

19th Dec., 29 H. III., Patric de Chauces, and Hawisia his wife, were to pay to the king a fine of 100 marks, for the seizin of her inheritance of Kidwelly, and John de Munemuth was commanded to give seizin, and the sheriff of Gloucester to take security for the payment.—[*Excerp. e Rot. Fin.* i. 414.] Leland attributes to Alicia de Londres, probably meaning this lady, “a reparation on this castle.”

52 Henry III. (1268), Paganus de Chaworth, son of Hawise, has for Kidwelly, in the Marches of Wales, two markets, and a fair of eight days.—[*Cal. Rot. Chart.*, 95.]

2 Edward I., Hawise de Londres died, seized of East Garston, county Berks, a member of Kydwelly.—[*Dugdale*, 517.]

Eva de Tracy seems to have been the widow of one of the family; at least it appears that “Eva de Tracy holds the manor of East Garston, with its appurtenances, in dower, of the inheritance of Hawise de Londres, and it

pertains to the manor of Kidwelly, which the said Hawise held by service, that if the king or his chief justice came into the parts of Kidwelly with an army, it was her duty to conduct the army with pennon displayed, and all her people, through the midland from Neath as far as Laugharne."—[*Test. de Nev.*, 124.] Lysons says, "that East Garston was held by the tenure of finding a knight clad in plate armour to serve in the king's army for forty days at the lord's cost, whenever he should be in the territory of Kydwelly, of which this manor is a member."—[*Lys. Berks*, 283.]

Payne de Chaworth, who died, s. p., 7 Edward I., 1278, had livery of his mother's lands, and "founded a chantry in Blanch-land, in the see of St. David's, for the weal of Sir Thomas de Londres, Patric de Chaworth, William and Maurice de Londres, Warine de Bassingbourn, the lady Eve de Tracy, and Alice and Gundred, deceased. Also, for the soul of Hawise de Londres, his mother; also, for the good estate of himself, Patric and Hervey, his brothers, and Eve and Anne, his sisters."—[*Dugdale*, 517.] At his death he was "seized of the manors of Kidwelly and Carnwathin."

In the 9 Edward I., Patrick Chaworth claims certain rights, &c., in Haveldon, in the hundred of Worth, county Wilts, which was given by a certain Warine, son of Gerald, to William de London, ancestor of Patrick.—[*Plac. de Q. W.*, p. 805.]

9th Dec., 13 Edward I., 1285, the king gave a charter, dated Kidwelly, under his hand, to the burgesses of that place.—[*Ibid.*, 817.] Sir R. Hoare (*Girald. Camb.*, i. p. 172) states that, in 1295, the lordship of Cydweli was in the possession of Patrick de Canton (Chaworth), to whom it had been given in case he could win the same.

For his services in the Scotch war, Henry Earl of Lancaster obtained, 28th January, 32 Edward I., a discharge of his arrears due for reliefs upon the lands which descended to his wife upon the death of Hawise de London, grandmother, and Payne de Chaworth, uncle to his wife.—[*Dugdale*, ii. 782.]

5th August, 3 Edward II., 1309, by a precept tested by the king at Stamford, Henry of Lancaster is directed to provide 200 men for the parts of Cathwarthlan and Kedwelly, towards a general South-Welsh levy of 2000 men.—[*Fæderæ*, ii. i. 83.]

28th December, 7 Edward III., Earl Henry had from his father a grant of the castle and town of Kidwelly, with the whole territory of Carnwathlan.—[*Dugdale*, 784.]

13th July, 11 Edward III., 1337, the king calls upon Henry Earl of Derby, his lieutenants or bailiffs in his lands of Kedwelly, Grosmund, and Skenfrith, and his custos of the land of Bergavenny, to array and arm all the able bodied men of those places, and to put them under the command of Hugh le Despenser and Gilbert Talbot. On the 24th September a further levy is ordered —[*Fæderæ*, ii. ii. 986, 997]; and, on the 3rd January, 16 Edward III., 1343, Henry Earl of Derby is to provide 123 men towards the general levy, for his lordships of Kedwelly, Karnwarthelan, and Iskynyn.—[*Ibid.*, 1217.]

In the partition of the estates between Blanch and Maude, the two coheirs of Henry Duke of Lancaster, Maude, Countess of Stafford and Duchess of Bavaria, had “the castle and lordship of Kidwelly, the provostship of Kidwelly, the office of Messore, the quarter Cadugan, the quarter Penryn, Carnwathlan, Iscoyt, and quarter Mory, Leirwith de Kurn, and Kidwelly, Iskenny, and Maherdiff, with their appurtenances in the Marches of Wales.”—[*Dugdale*, 784; *Rot. Fin.*, 38 Edward III.] The duchess died, 35 Edward III., 1361. Maude also founded a chantry in the church of the priory of Campesse, Suffolk, for the health of the souls of William de Burgh, Earl of Ulster, and Elzebeth de Burgh, and Maude de Ufford, her own daughters.—[*Dugdale*, 784; *Rot. Pat.* 38 Edward III.]

On the death of Duchess Maude, without issue, John of Gaunt claimed, 36 Edward III., 1362, for his wife Blanche, as her heir, the whole of the estates of the late Duke of Lancaster, including the castle, town, and lord-

ship of Kidwelly, the lordship of Carnewathlan, with the castle of Caer-Cennen, and the commot of Iskenning.—[*Dugdale*, 784.]

In a charter dated Windsor, 29th June, 23 Henry VI., 1445, and granted by the king as Duke of Lancaster, and sealed with the duchy seal, the “castles, lordships, and manors of Kidwelly, Kaerkenny, Iskenny, and Karnwalthan,” are enumerated as part of the duchy.—[*Duchy Chart., Hardy*, 228, 245, 268.]

29th July, 23 Henry VI., 1444. The castle, manor, and lordship of Kidwelly, &c., parcel of the duchy of Lancaster, were by letters patent vested in feoffees for the performance of the king’s will; and these letters are cited 38 Henry VI., 1459, and 39 Henry VI., 1460.—[*Rolls of Parl.*, v. 72<sup>b</sup>, 353<sup>b</sup>, 385<sup>a</sup>.]

4 Edward IV., 1464, Henry Donne, Esq., is exempted from the act of resumption, as regards his grant from Edward IV., by letters patent, of twenty pound per annum, out of the commots of Kidwelly, &c. Also, as regards grants out of the lordships of Cleygyn and Pyber, in the lordship of Kidwelly.—[*Rolls of Parl.*, v. 534<sup>a</sup>.] Sir Roger Vaughan, Knight, has a like exemption [7 and 8 Edward IV., 1467–8], as regards similar grants out of lands and tenements in the lordship of Kydwelly, &c., late belonging to Philip Maunselles, and Hopkyn ap Rees, Esq.—[*Ibid.*, 384<sup>a</sup>.]

1 Henry VII., 1485, Sir John Donne, Knight, is exempted from the general act of resumption as regards his grants from Edward IV. of certain offices, and among them, of the constableship and portership of the castle of Kidwelly.—[*Ibid.*, vii. 341<sup>b</sup>.] There are like exemptions in the same year for our servant, Walter Lewes, yeoman of our guard, for the office of bailly-rande, and attorneyship of our lordship of Kidwelly, &c., and of the office of steward of Kidwelly to Morice ap Owen, and both whose grants were by Henry VII.—[*Ibid.*, vi. 368<sup>b</sup>, 349<sup>b</sup>, 353<sup>a</sup>.]

Henry VII. granted the castle itself to Sir Rhys ap Thomas, K.G.; and Leland states, that “reparation was done on the castel againe the cumming of King Henry

VII. into Wenceland." On the attainder of Gruffydd, grandson of Rhys ap Thomas, the liberty of Kidwelly reverted to the crown, and was purchased in the year 1630 by the Earl of Carbery, Lord President of Wales, from whom it has descended to the Earl of Cawdor, its present owner, and the lord of the lordship of Kidwelly.

The town of Kidwelly contains a curious church, and some ancient buildings, worthy of examination; and in its records are several originals and copies of charters. The oldest, 30 Edward III., 1357, is now lost. The next is 22 Henry VI., 1444, dated Windsor; the seal is gone. Another, 32 Henry VIII., 1542, has the duchy seal. Another, 4 Edward VI., 1551, is an exemplification of that of Henry VI., and is sealed with the duchy seal, bearing England with a label, the shield being placed between two feathers. Another charter, dated 16 James I., 1619, has the great seal in black wax, and the duchy seal.

In the parish church of Little Wittenham, Berks, are some memorials for the family of Kidwelly, with the Christian name of Morgan. This seems to indicate an origin in Wales, which may possibly be accounted for by reference to the ancient connexion between Garston in this county, and Kidwelly.

G. T. CLARK.

NOTE.—On account of the absence of the author from England, the proof sheets have been deprived of the benefit of his revision.

[The deeds relating to Kidwelly exhibited by Mr. Knight at the Tenby Meeting are dated respectively, 1312, and 43 Edward III. The earlier document is a charter of William de Albost and Arabella his wife, granting a small portion of land in the parish of St. Ismael, "*in terrâ de Kedwely,*" to John Thomelyn "de Hakenchorche." Robert de Cauntelowe, "*tunc Seneshal de Kedwely,*" is one of the witnesses. The legend of the seal appended is—*S: WEELMI ALBOST.* The other deed is from Philip the son of Walter Malefaunt, and relates to his right in land of his father, called Malefaunt's Field, "*dat' apud Kedwelly.*" The device on the seal, which is of inferior execution, is a swan towing a small vessel with mast and flag.—H. H. KNIGHT.]

## BRITISH LETTERS.

## No. II.

NEW letters were fashioned with the view of supplying a want that was felt to be grammatically inconvenient, in that it tended to confuse or ignore certain ideas, *e. g.*, that of plurality in the word “eurgorn,” which on the introduction of the secondary *y* would assume in the plural the distinctive form of “eurgyrn,” as in the foregoing fragment; or of meeting a disposition observable in the national pronunciation towards certain sounds, such as the liquefaction of *cot-per* into *cymmer*. This disposition is still at work with us in regard to such words as *yn mlaen*, *anmhur*, *dyben*, which we are apt to pronounce as if they were written *ymlaen*, *amhur*, *diben*. Whether we ought, in every instance, to adapt our orthography to our common pronunciation, at the risk even of violating the rules of etymology, it is not the province of the writer, in this place, to offer an opinion; it is a question, however, well deserving the consideration of Welsh philologists.

We proceed with our more immediate subject. We left the letters of the alphabet sixteen in number; further on, in the record on “Cuttings,” (*Iolo MSS.*, p. 618,) we read:—

“After the faith in Christ they were made eighteen.”

And in that entitled “Ancient Symbols,” (*Ibid.*, p. 617,) we are told what the additional letters were:—

“After the coming of the faith in Christ two other letters were added, *u*, and *d*.<sup>1</sup>”

But a slight discrepancy exists between these statements and the following, which is extracted from the same document as that in which the alleged error relative to Dyvnwal Moelmud occurred:—

“When the sixteen characters became opened to the whole

<sup>1</sup> There must be some mistake here, for the letter *d* occurs in every classification of the alphabet as one of the sixteen.—See *Davies' Celtic Researches*, *Dr. Pughe's Grammar*, and *Ab Iolo's Coelbren y Beirdd*.

country, the Coelbren was further improved and extended, till it was increased to eighteen in the time of Beli Mawr, the son of Manogan."—(P. 623.)

Beli Mawr is known to have lived a short time before the Christian era. Assuming, however, the greater authenticity of the two other records, which place the introduction of the additional letters subsequently to the Incarnation, we might suppose that they were borrowed from Rome either by Bran or Lucius, in whose times, we are positively informed, British books underwent an improvement,<sup>2</sup> and that they were adapted by the college of bards for the Coelbren.

The name of the Deity was now differently written :—

"On the division of the eighteen, there were formed O, I, and U, which is the unutterable name of God."—*Ancient Symbols*, p. 617.

Under the Romans the old alphabet seems to have been to some extent disused, which caused it to be partially forgotten or misunderstood, though the bards, after the recovery of their national independence, succeeded in restoring it to its pristine integrity. The circumstance is thus recorded :—

"In the time of Owain, the son of Macsen Wledig, the race of the Cymry recovered their privileges and crown ; they took to their original mother tongue instead of the Latin which had nearly overrun the island of Britain, and in Welsh they kept the records of their race and country, restoring to memory the ancient Cymraeg with their original words and expressions, but in consequence of having forgotten, and not understanding the ancient alphabet of their ten original letters, they became lost, and thus arose a disagreement respecting several ancient words, that is, the putting of two letters where only one was required, *caan*, *braan*, and *glaan*, instead of *cân*, *brân*, and *glân*, and *digerth* instead of *dierth*, and *plegid* instead of *pleid*, and many others ; also putting *t* for *dd*, and *i* instead of *e*, and instead of *y*, and *u* instead of *e*. It is not necessary to instance the whole, but this much is given as a record of him by whom the system was amended, i. e., Talhaiarn the bard of Caerleon upon Usk, under the patronage of the Round Table, and after him Taliesin Ben Beirdd arranged the ten original letters, with the right under-

<sup>2</sup> See Coelbren y Beirdd, pp. 19, 25.

standing of them, and their modes, and changes, and proper inflections, and thus the ancient Cymraeg was duly restored."—*The ten original letters, apud Iolo MSS.*, p. 618.

The following extracts demonstrate a further augmentation of the bardic alphabet, until it was finally completed:—

"After that twenty, which order was kept till the time of Geraint Vardd Glâs, and he made them twenty-four, and thus they were for many ages, until the time of King Kenry the Fifth, and he forbade schools to the Cymry, and books, and the materials of books, and on account of that the Cymry were compelled to betake themselves to the Coelbren y Beirdd, and cut and blacken letters upon wood, and rods; and every owner of a house and family, who desired the knowledge of letters and reading, was obliged to take bards into his house; and from this there was an endowment of land appointed for the bards, and they became very numerous in Wales, and the knowledge of letters was more general than before the prohibition; and on this subject Llawdden the Bard sang thus:—

' Beware of being wrong ; see and observe  
The tendency and result of every privation ;  
It is an adage in this world,—  
" What produces good is not evil."

That is to say, where there was no school to be had but an English one, and no teacher but a Saxon, the Welsh would study their own language more than ever, and increase and improve in the number of their letters and cuttings, until they came to their present condition."—*Cuttings, apud Iolo MSS.*, p. 618.

"Of the primary signs, there is not even to this time more than twenty letters, or twenty signs; Geraint Vardd Glâs appointed twenty-four letters, as it is at this present time, but the four are auxiliaries. After that, by the counsel and teachers of the chair bards, there were brought into use by the improvement of the bardic alphabet thirty-eight letters, but there is not in black and white [in writing] more than four-and-twenty signs."—*Ancient Symbols*, p. 617.

"After having, for the reasons stated, restored the ancient art of the Cymry in letters and symbols, it was submitted to the chairs and Gorseddys of song of Deheubarth and Morganwg, and the Eisteddvods of Gwynedd and Powys, to search out what had been lost by the knowledge of the characters of the Bardic Coelbren, and what improvements and extension had been made in the characters. And then they confirmed the sixteen as general from the first; and the additions which from time to time

had been made to their number, until the time of the Bardd Glas, when they were confirmed as twenty-one primitive characters, on account of the vocal sounds of the Welsh language. After that they were made into twenty-four for general use, and there were no more appointed for domestic learning and knowledge; but the bards had on their private alphabet thirty-eight, of ancient preservation and private record, and they restored them to use. And it was not understood that more than ten of them could be put under an oath of secrecy with regard to their forms, and those were called the ten originals; so the whole thirty-eight were left private, but without any vow or oath; and from that they became common, as they now are."—*Coelbren y Beirdd, apud Iolo MSS.*, p. 621.

"After that to twenty; and in the time of the Bardd Glas to twenty-one; but another record says twenty-two; and so many are there of original letters in the Welsh, and all those that are beyond this, to thirty-eight are called supplementary."—*Ibid.*, p. 623.

"The Coelbren was completed in thirty-eight letters, confirmed by the counsel and authority of gorseddys, bards, and learned men. There are twelve vowels and twenty-six consonants, of which twelve are primaries, and fourteen secondaries."—*Llywelyn Sion, apud Coelbren y Beirdd.*

Geraint Vardd Glas was a brother to Morgan Hen, king of Glamorgan, and flourished about A.D. 870. He compiled a Welsh Grammar, which was to be seen at Rhaglan Castle before that place was demolished in the wars of Cromwell. It was, however, revised and enlarged by Einion Offeiriad and Edeyrn Davawd Aur, and in that form we still have it. "Geraint excelled in knowledge and judgment, and every chair in Wales and England was given him; from which he was called the Bardd Glas of the chair. After this he became domestic bard to Alfred king of England, and he remained with him, giving instruction to the Cymry in England, and to the Saxons; and in Winchester he lies buried,"—*Iolo MSS.*, p. 624.

JOHN WILLIAMS ab Ithel.

### ON A FORT CALLED PENLAN, NEAR ST. DAVID'S.

ON the occasion of the visit made to St. David's by some members of the Cambrian Archaeological Association, my attention was drawn to an earthen fortification, situated upon the hill overhanging the valley of the Alan, at a distance of less than half-a-mile to the south-west of the cathedral, and which I learned is called Penlan Castle. Its being marked in the Ordnance map as a small square fort seemed to render it deserving of attention, in connection with the, as yet, undetermined site of the Roman town of Menapia. It stands exactly upon the top of a very steep slope descending into the swampy valley; and on approaching it from St. David's, I found a square enclosure, of about forty-seven paces in extent along three of its sides; two of these, being upon the top of the hill, are rather strongly fortified with a rampart sloping towards both the inner and outer sides, but no very marked ditch. On the side next to the valley the rampart is much slighter, the steep slope into the valley forming a sufficient defence.

Upon proceeding across this square fort I observed that which has caused this communication to be made to the *Archæologia Cambrensis*. Adjoining to that side there is a small, but very strong, and nearly circular, fort, of about thirty paces in diameter, formed by a lofty rampart and deep external ditch throughout all its circumference, except the part defended by the slope of the hill, which is very steep, and where no rampart can be traced; but the slope may probably have been artificially increased. One part of this round fort intrudes considerably, by its curved form, into the above mentioned square enclosure, and thus the two present the singular fact of forts of totally different form attached to each other.

The question is now raised as to which of these camps is the older, for few will probably consider them as of equal antiquity. In answer, it may be remarked, that if the square were removed, the circular enclosure would

remain perfect, but the destruction of the circle would leave the square camp open upon one of its sides. To the opinion that the circle is of older formation than its neighbour, the square, and that the formers of the latter took advantage of the side of the circle to constitute one side of their enclosure, there are several objections. *First*,—If the builders of the square attached their defences to the circular fort, they would probably have made an opening from the one into the other; but none such exists. *Secondly*,—The circle quite overlooks the square, which is thus commanded by it. *Thirdly*,—If the circle is of more recent formation, its builders might well consider the existence of the square as of no consequence, for their ditch not being interfered with by it, the strength of their post is in no way weakened by its presence.

It will be generally conceded that the square fort is in all probability a work of the Romans, and the circular one of some Celtic chief; and if the Britons continued to form circular fortifications after the departure of the Romans, this may be the fort of the heathen chief recorded as having given so much trouble to the founder of St. David's, and the stronger circular entrenchment have been thrown up by him.

Having thus directed attention to this singular juxtaposition of the forms adopted by these two nations, I leave the question of their relative priority to be decided by those better qualified for its discussion than I can pretend to be.

CHARLES C. BABINGTON.

#### ANCIENT BRITISH REMAINS.

ADJOINING the Cardigan and Narberth road, on the west side of the road, near to Blaenffos, and about six miles and a half from Cardigan, and within three miles of Eglwys Wrw, there is a field called Morfa. This field is of high elevation, and sloping, commanding the view of Newport or Trefdraeth Bay, which is about ten miles distant westward. The field lies near Brenin Fawr, which stands south-east of it; and not far off from it, bearing

south-west, are Moel Drigarn and the Preseley Mountains; and within a short distance north-west are the church of Llanfair Nant Gwyn and Pant y Deri, the seat of General Colby.

In the centre of the field, in a bog, was seen by a lad a piece of timber, as he thought; and failing to drag it up, he went and told his mother that there was an old tree, or something very like it, in such and such a bog, and that he was determined upon dragging it out. His mother went with him to the place, but their mutual efforts to drag it out proving fruitless, they went and told their neighbours of the tree that was lying in the bog, and touching the surface. This brought to the spot Mr. David Morgan, the occupier of the land, who, with the assistance of his servants and others, succeeded after a deal of trouble and toil in hauling up what is thought by all who have seen it, to be a vast wooden coffin, but without a lid. It was filled with mud, clay, and small pebbles, but no remains of a human being were found in it. It is a piece of solid oak, excavated and formed in the shape of a boat. In its inside at the bottom it measures eight feet in length, two feet six inches at the shoulders, and two feet one inch at where the feet of the occupant, if it ever had an occupant, are supposed to have rested, pointing to the south-east. Its depth *inside* is nineteen inches, and its width at the top from edge to edge is three feet. The head of the coffin, instead of being finished like the head of a boat, ends in a thick, massy, and wide projection, unadapted for floating upon the water, with a groove underneath it at the farthest point. This groove, when the coffin was discovered, rested upon tressels, and the tressels rested upon the circumference of a round hole, not very deep, and filled with half-burnt oak timber. The length of the entire coffin, including the projecting part, measures thirteen feet. On each side of the place where the coffin, if it be a coffin, rested, is a mound of burnt or cremated small stones and rubbish. The stones upon their being taken up pulverized in one's hands. Nothing like earthenware or burnt human bones was found among them. And although the mounds were cut crossways through in form of the letter X, nothing was discovered at the bottom save and except stiff clay only. The digging took place on Wednesday, September 3, 1851. The *tumulus* is marked in the Ordnance map.

In the valley immediately beneath it is a place called *Rhyd Twmpathog*. The *Fleming Road* runs very near it; and a place called *Pant Saeson* is situated about as far to the south, as *Blaenffos* is to the north or north-east, from the tumulus.

The field where the tumulus stands is the property of W. H. Lewis, Esq., of Clyniew, near Newcastle Emlyn, who, together

with Dr. Jones of Glan Cuch, the Rev. David Evans, Rector of Cilgerran, the Rev. J. Jones (Tegid), Thomas Davies James, Esq., of St. Edmund Hall, Oxford, and several others, was present to witness the cutting through the two mounds.

I am happy to add that Mr. Lewis then and there said that the coffin should eventually be removed to his residence, for preservation.

Now, after having given the above account in as clear a manner as I possibly could, may I be allowed to call the attention of the antiquary and the historian to the interesting relic therein described, in the hope that some light might be thrown upon the mystery in which, at present, its use and history seem to be involved.

A LOOKER-ON.

P.S.—After writing the above notice, a thought struck me which leads me to believe the relic to be a representation of a boat. Its edges were all but on a level with the surface of the ground, and it had no lid; nor was there anything to indicate that it ever had a lid.

*Query*,—As druidism is said to be an arkite, or Noachical, religion, did the Druids in their solemnities make use of a representation of a boat, which could be carried about, as commemorative of the ark, like the Jews, who carried before them the ark of the Covenant? (see Joshua, iii. 3; 1 Sam., iv. 3, 4; and many other places); or, if the Druids sacrificed human beings—which some deny—did they make use of a trunk of a tree (like the one described above), scooped out, and fashioned like a boat, wherein to lay the victims, to examine and consult their entrails, that they might divine from their appearance and position whether good or evil, prosperity or adversity, would result, or might be expected, after the ceremonies were over? I ask these questions in order to provoke others.

N.B.—The boat under consideration—for the more I think of it, the more persuaded I am in my own mind that it was intended to represent a boat—could easily be carried about from place to place, either upon a car, or upon men's shoulders.

L. O.

[Those who have read Mr. Wilson's *Archaeology and Prehistoric Annals of Scotland*<sup>1</sup> will at once recognize in "A Looker-On's" description one of those primitive specimens of naval architecture which are occasionally exhumed in all parts of our island, and of which a large number are accurately described by that writer. There are certainly two or three *prima facie* objections to this view. For instance, it is not easy to see what business a boat has to rest upon tressels, in an elevated swamp ten miles from the sea. Nor again is the rough termination described by "A Looker-On" either a conve-

<sup>1</sup> See also Worsaae's *Primeval Antiquities of Denmark*, p. 13.

nient or a seemly appendage to a canoe, to which it would probably form a somewhat uncouth figure-head. The following solution of the difficulty was made in a conversation upon the subject; I fear my memory will not permit me to ascribe it to its proper author:—The canoe was formed of a tree which grew on the spot, and was brought into shape previously to its removal, for the obvious reason that it is easier to drag a hollow trunk ten miles than a solid one. It was hollowed out by fire, which has left marks of its existence in the calcined stones: the tressels were, in fact, the primeval “stocks,” from which the boat was never removed, being left, as appears from the otherwise unaccountable projection described by “A Looker-On,” in an unfinished state. If it be asked *why* it was never finished, I can only say that is not easy to answer the question after an interval of (perhaps) 3000 years, but that in such an age as we conceive that to have been which produced such boats as this, the irruption of a more civilized race, the discovery of a better fishing station, an unexpected obstacle, a more promising tree, a death, a casualty, a sickness, or any one of a hundred other causes, is sufficient to account for the sudden cessation of operations in the little dockyard.—W. B. J.]

## BULKELEY MANUSCRIPTS.

(Concluded from page 237, Vol. II.)

## X.

Sr

Oxford, May 5, 1737.

I desire you will send me, if it may be, by the Return of the Oxford Carrier a light wig for my own wearing. I had a dark one of you last winter which fits me very well, & I would have this made as big & as deep in the Head & with a String to draw it in or let out on occasion. As to the Colour, you made me one some years ago for eighteen Shillings which I thought light enough, & did me good service, but I would not confine you to a shilling or two & don't doubt but you will use me as well as you used to do. You may direct it to me at Mr. Richard Clements's Bookseller at Oxford & let me know whether I shall send you the Money for it by the Carrier or any other way. I lived till lately in my Lord Bulkeley's Family & hope you have still by you the measure of my head, which I mention that you may not mistake me for my Brother Sackville Parker who lived in Oxford & was your Customer for a wig or two. I am

S<sup>r</sup> Your Humble Servant  
RICHARD PARKER.

To Mr. Buckley, Peruke-maker, near  
the Exchange, in Chester.

## XI.

## CONSTRUCTION OF THE IMPROVED ROAD OVER PENMAEN MAWR.

The following are draughts of papers referring to what was once a work of great local importance :—

Pen maen Mawr in y<sup>e</sup> Road from Chester to Hollyhead being at Prsent too well known for it's Deep & Dangerous passage, it's propos'd for y<sup>e</sup> greater safty and encouragem<sup>t</sup> of those whose occasions bring y<sup>m</sup> that way to make y<sup>e</sup> Road over y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Pen-mayn-mawr (as has been long Desird) full 3 yards Broad w<sup>th</sup> a wall between it & y<sup>e</sup> precipice to y<sup>e</sup> seaward so as to afford a good & free Passage for a Coach & any horse man y<sup>t</sup> hapens to meet it, & for y<sup>e</sup> more Effectuall carrying on that work w<sup>th</sup> all possible Expedition y<sup>e</sup> R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> the L<sup>d</sup> Viscount Bulkeley does voluntarily & freely engage to undertake y<sup>e</sup> Trouble of Directing & forwarding y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> Worke as y<sup>t</sup> it may be perfected in 12 months after y<sup>e</sup> Receipt of such Subscriptions as shall be necessary to Defray y<sup>e</sup> charge thereof.

This Proposall haveing been lay'd before y<sup>e</sup> Duke of Ormond & his Grace being pleased to recommend it to y<sup>e</sup> Nobility Gentry & Merchants of Ireland and meeting with encouragement there my L<sup>d</sup> B: has caus'd Able and sufficient Workmen to view y<sup>e</sup> Road. And on their Report its found y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> great storms w<sup>ch</sup> that place is subject to have eaten y<sup>e</sup> loose earth underneath y<sup>e</sup> Road that if there be not some effectual care taken to prevent it in a short time it will become impassable, so that there must be Bull-warks built in several places from y<sup>e</sup> Bottom of y<sup>e</sup> Hill up to y<sup>e</sup> Road to preserve y<sup>e</sup> way w<sup>ch</sup> will be broader than first propos'd viz.—in y<sup>e</sup> narrowest place full four yards wide & in other places 6 & 7 yards at least & for y<sup>e</sup> securing y<sup>e</sup> loose stones & earth w<sup>ch</sup> are above y<sup>e</sup> Road its propos'd that a strong Wall of severall Hights must be Built, to prevent these falling into y<sup>e</sup> Road. Upon this view it is found y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> sum alreadly raised being far short of effecting y<sup>e</sup> work & impracticable to make a true Estimate of y<sup>e</sup> Charge of so great an undertakeing, it being much more Difficult than was Expected by Reason of y<sup>e</sup> great Bull-warks, Walls, &c., that must be Built. The Assistance given by Ireland being so considerable it's hop'd will encourage y<sup>e</sup> English Gentlemen, but especially y<sup>m</sup> whose occupions cause them to travaile that Road generously to assist in so publicke a Good.

In the handwriting of Lord Viscount Bulkeley :—

That there has been able and sufficient workmen to view the road over Penmaen Maur, and we find it to be a work of that

nature, that I shall be obliged to be undertaker my selfe. And for that End have appointed 2 of the neighbouring gentlemen to oversee the work in my absence. No man as yett can give any guess att the Charge, but every body is of oppinion that it may be done with safety and well secured. I Propose the road to be full four y<sup>ds</sup> in the narrowest part and six or seaven in a great many places for the convenenency of carriages. We found upon the View that was made, that the loose Earth under neath the road is eaten by the Weather, that there must be Bullwarks built in severall places from the Bottom of the Hill up to the Road, and a wall of a great length and a great many hights to support the great stones and loose earth above the road from falling into itt. And it will be necessary to lower some parts of, and raise it in other places, that the assent may be the easier, and a Battlement to the seaward all those things.

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This paper was intended for circulation :—

A PROPOSALL FOR MAKEING A GOOD ROAD OVER PEN-MAEN-MAWR IN WALES, BETWEEN CONWAY AND BEAUMARES BY SUBSCRIPTION.

Penmaen-mawr in the Road from Holyhead to Chester being at present too well known for its steep and dangerous passage, it is proposed for the greater safty and encouragement of those whose occasions bring them that way, to make the Roade over the said Pen-maen-maur (as has been long desired) full three yards broad with a wall between it and the precipice to the seawad, so as to afford a good and free Passage for a Coach, and any horse man that happen to meet it, and for the more effectuall carrying on that work with all possible expedition, the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Lord Buckley does voluntarily and freely engage to undertake the trouble of directing and forwarding the said worke, as that it may be perfected in 12 months after the receipt of such Subscriptions as shall be necessary to defray the Charge thereof.

His Grace the Duke of Ormonde Lord Lievttenant of Ireland thinking it of great advantage and convenience to the Nobility, Gentry, and Merchants of Ireland, traveling to and from London, that a good Road should be made over Penmaen-mawr, does recomend the above Proposall to their encouragement.

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XII.

There appears to have been a poet in Beaumaris about the time of Charles II., who has left behind him, among these papers, a long and miscellaneous, if not interesting,

collection of verses. It is partly fragmentary, and commences with the 6th stanza of a rambling religious composition, which is extended to the 120th stanza, and then fortunately terminates. The poet then adds:—

Now follow my soliloquies  
Upon my former falls,  
W<sup>ch</sup> I doe take to be Death's spies,  
And God's especiall calls.

He then launches forth into a set of "Confessions," in fifty stanzas; from which it would appear that he must have been as drunken a sot and lying a rogue as any in that part of the country. His candour at times is uncommonly amusing. After this comes:—

An Anagram and Distich made upon the Swearing & Admit-tance of the Chancellor of the Excheq<sup>r</sup> in Ireland.

27th oct., 1674.

Sir Charles Meredith  
there lyes Charmed

1. A Lady that to lye is armd  
to tell the truth must needs be charmd  
though she would have one willingly  
Sheele tell him noe & bite her lye  
But if hee turne to her againe  
hee will finde her in another vayne
2. If hee turne againe & to her close  
Joine breath mouths lipps cheeks chin and nose  
he shall smell before hee part  
that the Lady loves him att her heart  
If he Give her time to change her minde  
he shall finde her alter with the winde
3. But noble sir yo<sup>w</sup> happy are  
whose Lady is beyond compare  
chast constant vertuous & discreet  
A better walks not Dublin Street  
Yet being first woode phaps y<sup>t</sup> shee  
Might be given to inconstancie.
4. ffor att first when yo<sup>w</sup> courted her  
I p<sup>e</sup>sume she kept a mayden sturr  
& the hotter that yo<sup>w</sup> did her woe  
the oftner she did answere noe  
till after with her freinds consent  
She to bi yo<sup>r</sup> Lady was content.

5. An Attorney of yo<sup>r</sup> hono<sup>ble</sup> Co<sup>r</sup>t  
Invented this to make yo<sup>w</sup> sport  
who wisheth yo<sup>w</sup> a good long life  
to enjoy yo<sup>r</sup> vertuous Lady & wife  
who may bring yo<sup>w</sup> each yeere a boy  
And bidds yo<sup>w</sup> of yo<sup>r</sup> office Joy.
6. As yo<sup>r</sup> father had it all his dayes  
Soe may yo<sup>w</sup> enjoy the same allwayes  
And while the sun and moone doe shine  
may it continue in yo<sup>r</sup> line  
Lett all the Clerks and Excheq<sup>r</sup> men  
in prayers Joyne And say Amen.

And then the following poetical epistle :—

1. Deare Brother yo<sup>w</sup> high Shirriff bing  
Ile give yo<sup>w</sup> my sure ayde  
to serve the countrey and the King  
yo<sup>w</sup> need not be affrayde.
  2. But I will doe the best I can  
and uttermost endeavour  
to be a sober civill man  
and honest of behaviour
  3. I will not drink as I did use  
nor be intemperate  
men for my company I'll chuse  
who shalbe moderate
  4. Nor will I walk along the Street  
with any idle sott  
my company shall be discreet  
with whom I drink a pott
  5. of yo<sup>w</sup> and of myself and son  
I will take speciall care  
That neither yo<sup>w</sup> nor he be undon  
in the office where yo<sup>w</sup> are.
  6. I pray yo<sup>w</sup> brother doe not doubt  
that I will from yo<sup>w</sup> shrink  
Yo<sup>w</sup> know that I can helpe yo<sup>w</sup> out  
If I forbeare to drinke.
  7. And I did take the sacrament  
in hope that God would give  
me grace according to my intent  
most soberly to live.
- finis.

With another subjoined :—

Ana { Francis Godolphin } gram  
 { God holp's in franc: }

To this office God did help yo<sup>w</sup> in  
 be thankfull then & shun all sin  
 Shun drink the mother of all vice  
 by Ambition pride and avarice  
 to w<sup>ch</sup> men are by nature apt  
 yo<sup>w</sup> easily may be entrapt  
 though in co<sup>t</sup> yo<sup>w</sup> now above preside  
 I would not have yo<sup>w</sup> puff w<sup>th</sup> pride  
 Nor yett to scorne the Ancient clarks  
 who in their youth were pretty sparks  
 Some leapt to places of renowne  
 And in short space again fell downe  
 Soe may yo<sup>r</sup> office ere yo<sup>w</sup> dye  
 revert unto Judge Kenedye.

Then comes forty-three more stanzas of religious confessions and sentiments, strangely mixed up with worldly matter. The first stanza gives us the age of this Cambrian Pepys :—

Last day being Friday and I prepared  
 for Sundaie's Sacrament,  
 Seeing God had sixty yeares me spared  
 a long time to repent.

Whatever his repentance may have been, his frailty kept full pace with it.

At the 17th stanza he expresses his genealogical ideas thus :—

17. Christ to me is more neare of kin  
 than he to angells is:  
 his flesh and blood I beare within  
 They enjoy noe such blisse
18. The Britaine doth his pedigree  
 derive from Adam downward  
 through Christ if he be not made free  
 yett he is but a clownard.

By this time his muse appears to have become well warmed, and, no longer able to restrain her fire, he bursts forth into full poetic phrenzy, and gives us his

"Meditations," in six hundred stanzas ! of which the last one runs thus :—

Let this thy warning serve my turne  
to bring me home to thee  
Lest that I rough and rhost and burne  
unto eternitie. Amen.

"A Description of Hypocrites," in two hundred and twenty stanzas, shows that the poet had still some stuff left in him ; and so does another fragment of thirty-one stanzas,—all more or less moral and religious. At last we come to something more comfortable, in the shape of a "Christmas Carol," in forty-three stanzas. Take as a specimen the introductory one :—

Come friends and good neighbours att cardes let us play  
for long is the night, now, & short is the day  
Seeing Christmas nowe cometh but once in the yeare  
Let us feast one another with wine and good chear  
Let good ale beere & perry and sider and sack  
plum puddings and browne and minced pyes goe to wrack.

*Oh tempora! oh mores!* His morals, however, and his ideas of the times do not hinder him from delivering himself of some advice to his son in one hundred and twenty stanzas ; and there are a score more or so of fragmentary effusions not quite intelligible. It appears that his son had been made under-sheriff, no doubt when his brother was high sheriff, whereupon he gives him the following shrewd hints, with which we take our leave of the bard of Mona :—

Deare Son being mounted now on high  
Upon your mettled steed  
Seeing many have on you their eye  
Unto your wayes take heed.  
You being the Shirriff's deputy  
Must needs make use of knaves  
Who are as dangerous company  
As in a storm are waves.  
Doe nothing which God doth abhor  
In the King's or party's cause  
But what you have a warrant for  
or license from the laws.

## WELSH DEEDS.

A.D. 1340—1401.

THE following translations of Latin Deeds, relating to Oswestry and its neighbourhood, were kindly furnished to us by J. Harland, Esq., a gentleman connected with the "Manchester Guardian," in which paper, moreover, have appeared several records of a similar character, calculated to throw much light and interest upon the family antiquities of Cheshire and Lancashire. We earnestly invite the comments of any of our correspondents thereupon, who may be acquainted with the past history of the north-eastern borders of the Principality. The name "extraneus" in the original Latin, rendered "L'Estrange," was the family name of the Lords Strange of Knockin, near Oswestry, who possessed the manor of Knockin, and had a castle there (of which the keep is still standing) in the reigns of Henry II. and Henry III. The latter king directed a precept to the sheriff of Salop commanding aid to enable John L'Estrange to erect part of "the castle of Cnukin," and to repair the rest, for the defence of the borders. In the reign of Edward III., Madoc, a Welsh nobleman, headed an insurrection and defeated Lord Strange at Knockin. This family (whose armorial bearings were—gules, two lions passant guardant, argent) gave the title with the barony of Strange, in succession, to the ancient and distinguished Stanley and Derby family of Lancashire, and to the ducal house of Athol. The eldest son of Thomas, second Lord Stanley, married Joan, daughter and heir of John, Lord Strange of Knockin; and was summoned to parliament as Lord Strange, 22 Edward IV. [1482-3.] Upon the demise of James, tenth Earl of Derby, without issue, James, second Duke of Athol (the maternal great-grandson of James, seventh Earl of Derby) claimed and was allowed the barony of Strange, which had been (mistakenly) conferred upon the seventh earl in his father's lifetime, by writ of summons in 1627; thus creating a new peerage, still constituting one of the

English titles of the Duke of Athol; and the sixth quartering in the coat of this peer is two lions passant, in pale, argent, for Strange:—

No. I.—*Lands in Llannvorda, September 29, 28 Henry III., 1244.*

Yaruorth and Cadogon, sons of Gurgeneh de Lannvordaf, grant and pledge [inpignoravim<sup>9</sup>] to John the Baker [Pistori] de de Albomonasterio [White Monastery] all our land in Lannvordaf for 40s. [quadraginta] and 34 [trigintaquatuor] pence, which he has handed to us together at the feast of St. Michael, in the 28th year of King Henry the son of King John [September 29, 1244] Paying yearly 6d. “ad pastū satellitū, et quolibet secundo anno 7½d. and ¼d.” to Trethwartheyt for all secular service &c. Witnesses: William Lew[h]ret, then Constable, William Petiprest, clerk of the castle. Ficar son of Hasili [Basil] Yaruorth son of Damel, Eynō son of Kenō, Meyler Gocsh, Ficar le Salter, John son of Damel and others.—(One seal remains.)

S. CADVCON. F : GVRGEHEV.

The seal of Caducon the son of Gurgeheu.

No. II.—[No date.]—*Land in Weston.*

Joan son of Grono, Penbras, sells to Madoc son of John de Albo Monaterr<sup>9</sup> an acre of land in the field of Weston, to wit, that which lies next [near] (juxta) the land of the son of Yago Forst on the one side, and the land of Joan son of Grono himself on the other, for five shillings which he has given me. To have &c. for ever. Witnesses: Blehint son of Grono, Madoc son of Blehint, Madoc son of Eynon, Kenewric “seis.” William Karadoc, William Warmalo, William le Chimer, Ric. son of Aurifab: [Goldsmith] and others.

Half the seal remains; “F. GRO :” visible.

No. III.—[No date.]—*Acre of land in Llanvorda.*

Madoc ab Mereduth de Lannvorda gives to Thomas le Salter of Oswaldestre [Oswestry] an acre of land lying in the fields of Lannvorda, between the King's highway that leads towards the *Moeuer* on one side, and the land of Richard formerly of Æstone on the other,—and extending from Erovgam to the land of Cadogon Vaughan. To have &c. for ever. Yielding therefor yearly to me &c. one Rose, at the feast of the Nativity of St. John Baptist, when it shall be required from them, for all secular service, &c. In confirmation of this grant the said Thomas gave me half a mark in hand. Witnesses: Richard de Hastone then

constable, Meurikes ab Blethint, and Thomas de Wodeton, bailiffs of the country [patrie], Howel Vaughan, Cadogon Vaughan, Richard Lestrange, Richard son of Madoc, John Loid and others many.

S : MADOCI AB MEREDUTH.

The seal of Madoc ap Meredith.

No. IV.—[No date.]—*Burgage in Middle Street, Oswestry.*

William son of Richard le Saltere de Ossewaldistr<sup>y</sup> gives to Alexander de M<sup>o</sup>channton, a burgage with its appurtenances in Ossewaldistr<sup>y</sup>: to wit, in Midelstret, between the house of Isolde le Saltere, my mother, and the house of John Merlor. To have &c. Yielding therefor to his head lord, lord of the county, a pair of gloves [cirotcar :] of the value of 1d. and to me 12s. yearly rent, viz. 6s. at the feast of St. Michael, and 6s. at the feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary, for all secular services, &c. Witnesses: Roger de Chene then temporary Steward, William English or the Englishman [Anglico], Roger son of Roger, John the Roter, John Merler, John Lombard, Richard L'Estrange, [extraneus,] and others many.

A dark green seal broken and legend defaced.

No. V.—[June, 1331.]—*Acre of land in fields of Weston.*

Seynā ap Wyon Cadog: ap Wyon, and Eynō ap Wyon of Sweney, give to John Loyd, an acre of our land lying in the fields of Weston between the birth[hereditary]land [t'ra nativa] of the Lord on both sides—for a certain sum of money which the said John has given to us in hand. To have &c. for ever. Yielding therefor yearly to us a half-penny at the feast of St. Michael for all secular services, &c. Witnesses: Roger Carles, then Steward, John de Bortone [Broughton], constable, Richard L'Estrange, Madoc L'Estrange, Richard de Hastone, Richard son of Madoc, William ap Eynō, John de Astone, and others. Given at Oswoldustr<sup>y</sup>: on Saturday next before the feast of St. Barnabas, in the fifth year of the reign of Edward the Third after the Conquest. [St. Barnabas, June 11.]

June, 5th Edward III., 1331.

Parts of all three seals remaining; legend in very high relief, but too much mutilated to make out.

Endorsed,—“Carta Seynā ap Wyon, Eynō and Cadogon frat<sup>o</sup> ei<sup>o</sup>” [his brother].

No. VI.—*Fragment.—4. . . . . in Weston.*

.... Richard de Osewaldestre: gives to John Loyd.... in

Weston. Of which one lies between the land of the said John and birth-land of the Lord. Another lies between . . . the way which is called "Salter's Way." The third lies extending towards the said way, between the native [hereditary] land of the lord . . . and extends towards Morda. To have &c. the said four "DIAS" &c . . . for ever. Yielding therefor . . . to me a rose at the feast of St. John Baptist for all things. For this, before the gift . . . John gave me in hand a sum of money. . . . Witnesses : Roger Careles, then steward, \* \* . . . Richard L'Estrange, Madoc L'Estrange, Richard son of Madoc, Richard de Haston, John de Aston, Howel . . . Given at Osewaldestr, Tuesday next after the feast of the Translation of St. Thomas [the Apostle, July 3] in the fifth year . . . after the Conquest. [Probably same year as No. V., 1331 ?]

Endorsed,—“Carta Rici Lubard in Weston.”

Only latter half of every line left.—Seal gone.

No. VII.—*Grant of seven Selions in Weston Field, June, 1341.*

Madoc L'Estrange, Roger de Borghton, and Cecil his wife gave to John Loid of Oswestry seven selions of land together lying in the field of Weston, between land of Richard de Haston, on one side and land of Madoc L'Estrange, on the other. To Have &c. for ever. Yielding therefor yearly to the head lord the service due and of right accustomed for all secular service, &c. For this donation and grant the said John has given us a certain sum of money in hand. Witnesses : Sir John de Borton, Knight, then Steward, Richard son of Madoc then receiver, Roger the Rotur, Howel ap Thomas, bailiff of the town, Roger de Cloune and Richard de Foxton and many others. Given at Osewastre, Wednesday next before the feast of St. John Baptist [June 24] 15th Edward III. [1341.]

There have been three seals, the first only remains, dark green wax. On a heater shield, a lion rampant passant. Legend illegible.

Endorsed,—“Cart: Joh'is Loid de Mad'i Extran : Rog'ro de Borghton et Cecill.”

No. VIII.—*Indenture.—[June, 1341.]—John Loyd to pay 26s.*

Whereas Madoc L'Estrange, Roger de Borghton, and Cecil wife of the said Roger, gave to John Loid of Oswestry, seven selions of land in the field of Weston, as by a certain charter of feoffment by the said Madoc &c. to the said Loid made, is more fully set forth. Now therefore the said John grants to the said Madoc &c. that for as long and for what time the said seven

selions of land shall fully remain to them, he will pay 26s. Saving however to the said John, his expenses if any relating to to the said land, during the time for which he pays the said money.—Witnesses: Sir John de Bortun, Knight, then Steward; Richard son of Madoc, then Receiver; Richard de Hastun, Roger Rotur, Howel, bailiff of the town, Roger Morgan and Richard de Foxton, and many others. Given at Osewastr: Thursday next before the feast of St. John Baptist. [June 24.] 15th Edward III. [1341.]

Three seals appended; first, for device, a dagger or cross within a horseshoe; second, a lion rampant passant on heater shield; third, Virgin and child, single leaves, &c.

No. IX.—[1341.]—*An Acre of four Selions in Weston Field.*

Madoc L'Estrange de Oswaldestre gives to John Loyd, son of Madoc Vaughan, of the same place, an acre of my land containing four selions lying in the field of Weston, between the lord's land of inheritance on one side and extending from the church lands which may be certain lands [called] lands *Egu duy*, to the way which is called the Salter's Way. To Have &c. of the head lord of his fee, by service therefor due and accustomed, for ever. For this before the gift, the said John gave me 18s. 4d. in hand. Witnesses: Sir John de Borton, then Steward, Richard de Haston, John de Aston, Howel ap Thomas, Richard son of William the Saltere, Roger son of Simon, Philip de Aston and others many. Given at Oswaldestr, Monday next after the feast of St. Dunstan [his translation September 7]. 15th Edward III. [1341.]

Seal gone.

No. X.—*Indenture.*—[1341-2.]—*Messuage in Middle Street, Oswestry.*

Thomas le Saltore of Oswaldestr, demises and to farm lets to Richard son of Madoc ab Joreuard of the same place, a messuage in the same town, in a street called "Middelstret" lying between my tenements on both sides, and extending from the highway to a certain tree which is called "The Ash" [fraxinus] towards the wall of the town. To have &c. the said messuage, the mansion which the said Richard built there &c. for ever. Yielding therefore yearly to me &c. 8s. viz. 4s. at the feast of St. Michael, and 4s. at the feast of St. Mary in March [15th]. And because the said Richard encroached a little on my land in his building the said messuage, he shall in like manner yield yearly to me &c. a pair of buckskin gloves [cirotocarum cerviciarum] of the value of

2d., or two pence, at the feast of St. Michael, for all secular service. Witnesses: Richard L'Estrange, Philip L'Estrange, William the Salter, John Loid, Thomas L'Estrange, and others many. Given at Oswald'tre, Wednesday next after the feast of St. Wiñda [?Winefreda, November 3] abbess, in the sixteenth year of Edward son of King Edward. [Edward III.? 1341-2].

Seal broken.

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No. XI.—[1347.]—*Yearly Rent of 6s. in Oswestry.*

Richard de Sontbache and Cristiana his wife give to John Loyt and E<sup>9</sup>me [?Emma] his wife 6s. yearly rent in the town of Oswaldestre, viz. 5s. arising out of the tenement which William Haston holds of us in the street of Wyhastret, which tenement lies between the tenement of Thomas le Rotour and the tenement of C<sup>E</sup>vys de Brugge and extends from the highway to the wall of the town, and twelvepence arising out of a tenement which Jan. ap Thomas holds of us in the same street, which tenement lies between the tenement of a certain Richard de Caula and the tenement of William Haston, and extends from the highway to the fosse of the town. To Have &c. for ever. For this, before the gift, the said John and Emma gave us £4 sterling in hand. Witnesses: G'ffino de Glyndeuerdo, then steward, Roger the Rotour, and Richard Dangleys [English], bailiffs of the town, John Haston, Howel ap Thomas, Richard son of William the Salter, and others many. Given at Oswaldestr, on Saturday next before the feast of the Circumcision of the Lord. [Jan 1.] in the 20th year of Edward III. [1347.]

[Two whitish seals attached, but illegible.]

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No. XII.—September, 26 Edward III. [1352.]—*An Acre in Llanvorda.*

Richard, son of Richard, son of Madoc ap Joruerth de Oswaldestre gives to Richard son of Thomas the Salter of the same place, one acre of my land lying in the field of the vill. of Llanvord: and called *Erw Forchok* and lying between the land of Roger Harper, Vicar of Osw: on one side and land of Roger le Straunge on the other. To Have &c. for ever, of the head lord, yielding him the service therefrom due and of right accustomed. Witnesses: Sir John de Burton, then Steward at Oswestry; John Husey, then constable of that place; Gruffut ap Eymō Vychan, and Saint Gethyn, then bailiffs of two parts of the country; Meurik ap G'ffri ap Gleth Riryd ap Meurik Mereduth Goch de Llanvorda, Richard le Kysley, [or Byfley], Madoc ap Eymō ap Gronw de Cottom, with many others.

Given at Oswaldestre Monday next after the feast of St. Michael the Archangel, [September 29,] 26th year of reign of Edward III. after the Conquest. [1352.]

Small green seal; centre a stag with antlers, legend mutilated.

No XIII.—*Bond*, 43 Edward III.—[November, 1369.]

Roger son of Thomas de Heton, is bound &c. to Roger, my son, in £40. To be paid the said money on the day of the birth of the Lord [Christmas Day] next following. He admits himself to be within the statute of Acton Burnel. Given at Salop Tuesday in the feast of All Saints [November 1] in the 43rd of Edward the Third after the Conquest. [1369.]

Endorsement, “A statute wherein Thomas of Heaton stands bound to Roger his son in £40.”

Large red seal; Obverse, the effigy or bust of a lady, between two castles, with a squirrel or other animal on her breast. Of the legend, “Edw. de” is all that is legible. Reverse, a device of three branches, with the legend “Salopia.”

No. XIV.—[April, 1374.]—*Lands in Syveton near Culmynton.*

John Haukynes de Lodelowe, parson of the church of Whytechirche, gives to Walter Lochard, to John his brother, William de la Bache, John de Halle, parson of the church of Culmynton, and John Bagard, chaplain, all the lands and tenements with the rents, &c., which I have in the town and fields of Syveton, near Culmynton. To Have &c. for ever. Witnesses: Sir John de Lodelowe, Knight, Sir Roger Cheyne, Knight, John Fitz Wareyn, John Smalemon, Wm. Robardes, Wm. Cannvyle, Richard de Panteleye and many others. Given at Syveton, Wednesday next before the feast of St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor, [April 4] in the 48th year of Edward the Third after the Conquest. [1374.]

Red seal mutilated; Gothic or old English small letter legend; in centre a heater shield, with heraldic bearings.

No. XV.—*Indented Bond*.—[December, 1392.]

Indenture between Thomas le Salter on the one part and William son of Richard de Sonbache on the other part. Witnesseth that William is bound to Thomas in £20, to be paid to him at the feast of the Purification of the blessed Mary, next after the date of these presents, as in a certain obligatory letter between those concerned is fully contained.—Thomas wills and grants that if he and his heirs hold quietly &c. in fee for ever, the lands and tenements and 16s. of rents outgoing from two

tenements in Widastrete, 6s. of rents outgoing from certain tenements which John Lloit bought or acquired [perquisivit] of Richard de Sonbache and Cristiana his wife, by fine in the Lord's Court; then according to the form of charters to the same John, one of which was given at Oswaldestro on Wednesday next before the feast of St. George [April 23] in 22nd Edward III., [1348] and another is given at Oswaldestro on Saturday next before the feast of the Circumcision of the Lord [January 1] in the 20th Edward III. [1347]. Also by the gift of the said Thomas, the three tenements and 6s. of rent, or part of the same, were given to the said William &c. [Warranty.] Witnesses: John Borley, then steward of the same place [Oswestry], Thomas Englisch, Roger Westbury, Madoc Lloit [Lloyd], William Withiford, and others. Given at Oswaldestre on Monday next before the feast of the birth of the Lord [Christmas Day] in the 16th year of King Richard, the Second after the Conquest. [1392.]

Seal gone. Endorsed,—“*Indent'a in<sup>t</sup> Thom : Sal<sup>t</sup> et Willm fil : Ric : Sonbache.*”

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No. XVI.—*A Court Record of Oswestry.*—[7th May, 1393.]

At the Court for the Vill of Oswestry, held at the same place, the 7th May, 16th Richard II. [1393] it was granted to Thomas Salter and Matilda his wife, and their heirs male and female, &c. that they should possess and enjoy all that land and tenement which Richard the son of Thomas Salter gave to him by his charters in the Vills of Oswestry, Weston, Swyney, Llanvorda, Llenclyde, Mersbury, Grucketh, Treforclanthe and Coton, as well of the lands of a certain John Lloit as of the lands of him Richard the the son of Thomas in the towns before-named . . . . For which the said Thomas and Matilda, before the grant, gave a fine of £10. Paying at the feasts of St. Matthew [September 21], the Annunciation of the Blessed Mary [March 25] and St. Matthew next afterwards. Pledges [Sureties] David ap Jonuorth Vaughan, and Madewyn ap David Gothyn. In testimony whereof this present capias is enrolled. John Boerley, steward of the same, has set his seal. Given at Oswestry the day and year above written.

The seal has an etoile of five points in the centre: legend in old English small letters, “*Sigillum Thome Boerleie.*”

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No. XVII.—*Indenture.*—[1397].—*Acre in Maesbury.*

Indenture between Thomas Salter and Jeniō ap Weon, Witnesseth,—that Thomas grants to the said Jeani &c., an acre of land lying in the town of Mesbury, with one parcel of land and a

half, lying in the fields of Weston, &c. in exchange for one "hadellande" [headland?] which the said Jen: gave the said Thomas for ever. To Have &c. in exchange for the said hadellande, lying in Maystade ways. Of the head lord by service due and accustomed. [Reciprocal Warranties.] Witnesses: John Wodhalis, Steward, David ap Jenn: Wagh: and Howell ap Grffr: the two bailiffs for the year, Jenn: ap Meredit: Jenn: Evy and Jenn: ap David Lloid and others. Dated at Oswestry on Wednesday next after the feast of St. Edward [January 5,] in the 20th year of the reign of King Richard the Second. [1397.]

White seal; device, some animal; defaced.

No. XVIII.—*Two tenements, and seven acres, near Shrewsbury.*

Thomas Parys de Salop [Shrewsbury] gives to William Chyld of Salop, chaplain, two tenements in the "forieta monachorum" [?the Abbey Foregate] of Salop which lie in the same Foregate between the tenement of John Wyke on one side and a certain narrow lane [venellam] which leads towards the grange of the monks on the other side. And they extend in length from the King's Highway to the tenement of the said John Wyke. He also gives to the same William Chyld seven acres of land in the field of the Abbey Foregate, of which four lie together at Halywalle between the land of Richard Huse on one side and the land of a certain Robert Lake on the other. And they extend in length from the Hallywalle to the road which leads towards Haghmon. And the fifth acre of the land lies behind the grange of the monks between land of a certain Simon the Turnour, on one side and land of Richard Huse on the other. And it extends in length from the land of Agnes de Parys to the road to Crowemere. The sixth acre of land lies upon the Cleyhull between land of Sir William Stury, Knight, on one side and land of the hospital of St. Egidius on the other. And it extends in length from the land of Hugh Wygan to the land of the said William Stury. And the seventh acre lies in the same field, between land of the said William Stury on one side and land of the said Hugh Wygan on the other, and extends in length from land of the said Hugh Wygan to the road which leads from Flaggewalle to Dunesmere. To Have &c. of the head lord of his fee, by service thence due and of right accustomed, for ever. Witnesses: Thomas Bragge, then bailiff of the Abbey Foregate, John Wyke, Richard Suggedon, John Dounton, Reginald Cook, John Stafford, John Wodecote, and many others. Given at the Abbey Foregate, on Wednesday in Easter week, in the second year of Henry IV. [1401.]

Dark red seal; legend much defaced. In the centre a heater

shield, bearing a fesse, from which springs a cross pomel, the upper part forming a sort of crest above the shield. Below the fesse, a mullet of six points.

NOTE.—“John the Roter,” (No. IV.); “Roger the Rotur,” (Nos. VII. and VIII.); and “Thomas le Rotour,” (No. XI.) The rotour or roter was a sort of minstrel who played on the rote, a kind of hurdy-gurdy. In a MS. of Gower’s, belonging to the Society of Antiquaries, is the couplet :—

“ He tauzte hire til sche was certen  
Of harpe, of citole, and of *rote*.”

Another old MS. (Lincoln) has the following :—

“ Well to play on a *rote*,  
To sing many new note,  
And of harping well I wote,  
He won the prize aye.”

In *Lydgate’s Minor Poems* is the following couplet :—

“ He is a person she thinketh of fair figure,  
A young *rotour* ready to her pleasure.”

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#### THE LIBRARY AND MUSEUM MOVEMENT.

WITHIN the last two or three years, a movement has been in progress for the purpose of creating in the large towns of the kingdom Free Public Libraries and Museums. It appeared in evidence before a Committee of the House of Commons, that of the various libraries in the kingdom, including the “national” ones, not one was properly free or open to all who chose to read, except the ancient Chetham Library in Manchester. Yet few towns have shown more spirit in the library movement than Manchester and Salford. The former has called into existence a magnificent modern library, for which no less a sum than £9,700 was raised by subscription ; and the latter, at a cost of about £4,000, has established another. Thus the joint boroughs now possess three public libraries, a large portion of the greatest of them being a library of circulation. In Liverpool similar efforts have been made, but upon a smaller scale. The library was intended to be part of a large institution which already

possesses £20,000 worth of property; but difficulties have occurred respecting the carrying out of these joint objects. In the confidence that they would be carried out, however, the public did not feel themselves called upon to subscribe so liberally, so that only £1,500 have been collected in money, and from 4000 to 5000 volumes of books. It is expected that, besides its permanent maintenance, the corporation of the town will add £1,000 or £1,500 for the purchase of books to make a commencement.

In the matter of museums, some are connected with the libraries, as at the British Museum in London; others are separate institutions. The library and museum at Salford are under one superintendence; at Manchester there are several museums, but none strictly public. In Liverpool the grandest effort has been made. The negotiations are still pending with the Royal Institution, and if that collection be handed over to the public, the whole will be second only to that of the British Museum. But independent of this, the magnificent collection bequeathed by the late Earl of Derby will require almost a street for its proper display, and probably eight or ten years for its perfect preparation. Then there is the model of the docks, and the collection of mercantile products, both of which were in the Great Exhibition at London; and the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire are about to lay out their collection in the same apartments. There will therefore be, in the course of a few years, a public library, a gallery of art, a museum of natural history, a museum of models, one of mercantile products, one of antiquities, &c., &c., all of which will be open, without payment or questioning, to every one who is disposed to profit by them.

There is one respect in which we in Wales could far surpass all England. We could get up with little or no trouble in the principal town of each county, a museum exhibiting the geological products of the districts, the processes in mining, and in the refining or preparation of metals, varieties in the machinery used, &c. By ex-

changing the redundant products of various districts, each museum might contain specimens from all Wales. There ought, too, to be a public library in connexion with every such museum, where the humblest Welshman could see a copy of every Welsh book in print, and of the principal English ones also. This would do much to refine and elevate the people, and to turn their thoughts into a right direction. There is nothing needed but a public room, and one man at a moderate salary. The little town of Warrington has set an excellent example in this respect, and others of a similar amount of population are ready to follow its example. We hope that the Principality will not be the last in the field, nor unworthy of its ancient reputation.

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#### THE POEMS OF TALIESIN.

##### No. IV.

###### MARWNAD CUNEDDA.

THIS poem has been a great stumbling-block in the way of all rational accounts of Taliesin and his poems. Is it an ancient or a modern poem? If read without any misgivings as to the chronology, the poem carries with it all the marks of antiquity; there is an utter absence of any romantic or fictitious element; it has all the appearance of an historical poem, and possesses all the attributes which belong to the other poems of Taliesin. It has the same vigour which marks his best poems to Urien Rheged; the same bold and forcible expression, and the same descriptive excellence. Further, it specifies several historical facts without any exaggeration; relates the transactions of an early period in the precise order that we may expect to find them; and claims on the part of the bard, a close personal acquaintance with the subject of his elegy. These evidences of genuineness are quite irresistible when considered alone; and it is only when

we look at the biography of Cunedda, that we begin to doubt the authenticity of the poem, or seek some hypothesis by which to reconcile the chronology with the assumption that the poem was the work of a person living contemporaneously with Cunedda, and that that person was the bard of Urien Rheged—TALIESIN. In order to exhibit the nature of this discrepancy, I will here quote a portion of the article CUNEDDA WLEDIG in Owen's *Cambrian Biography* :—

“Cunedda Wledig, son of Edeyrn ab Padarn with the crimson coat, by Gwawl daughter of Coel Godebog. His original patrimony was in Cumberland, and some neighbouring districts, where he began to reign about A.D. 328, and died in 389.”

Professor Rees places him between 400 and 433. We will not now make any comment upon this chronology ; but assuming it to be correct, we at once perceive that Taliesin, who was living in 610, could not have written the elegy of a man who is supposed to have lived 220 years before. Henry Jenkins lived to be 169, old Parr to be 142, and Llywarch Hen lived to about the same age ; but assuming the bard to have been thirty years of age when he composed this elegy, he would have been  $(30+610-389=)$  no less than 251 years old at the death of Iago ab Beli in 610 ; and that is a longer lease of life than men usually obtain. We have therefore to take our choice of three hypotheses :—

I.—That the poem is not an ancient composition. This we have rejected.

II.—That the author was an earlier Taliesin than the bard of Urien Rheged.

III.—That the chronology is incorrect, and that the age of Cunedda has been very much antedated.

The Rev. Edward Davies, in his work on the *Claims of Ossian* adopts the second alternative, and asserts that Taliesin was not a proper name, but the title of several British bards.—(P. 28, *Note*.)

This assumption that Tal-iesin was a myth, is a natural result of the critical principles adopted by the author of the *Celtic Researches* ; but it has no foundation in truth.

The existence of this early Taliesin is not proved ; and the poems of the *pseudo*-Taliesin profess to be those of the contemporary of Urien and Maelgwn Gwynedd ; and therefore there is no warrant for assuming that there ever was more than one Taliesin. It is quite clear that the Taliesin of this poem was a proper name ; for he tells us so in the first line :—

“ Mydwyf Taliessin derydd.”

It therefore becomes our duty to see what can be done with the third hypothesis ; as it is quite manifest that none of the usual explanations can be deemed to be at all satisfactory. It will be well however to peruse the poem first, and then advance our argument respecting it.

#### MARWNAD CUNEDDA.

Mydwyf Taliessin derydd  
 Gwawd godadolaf fedydd  
 Bedydd rhwyf rhifeddan eiddolydd  
 Cyfranc allt a gallt ac Echwydd  
 Ergynawr Cuneddaf creiserrydd  
 Ynghaer Weir a chaer Liwelydd  
 Ergynawd cyfatwt cyfergyr  
 Cyfanwaneg tan tra myr ton  
 Llupawt glew i gilydd  
 Can cafas ei whel uch elfydd  
 Mal uchercid<sup>1</sup> gwynt wrth onwydd  
 Hefynderrhyn y gwn ei gyfyl  
 Kyfacheddwyn a choelyn cerenydd  
 Gwisgan feirdd cywrein canonhydd  
 Marw Cuneddaf agwynaf a gwynid  
 Cwynitor tewdor tawdun diarchar  
 Dychyfal dychyfun dyfnveis  
 Dyfyngleis dychyfun  
 Ymadrawdd cwddedawdd caledlwm  
 Caletach wrth elyn nog asgwrm  
 Ys cynyal Cuneddaf cyn cywys a thydwed  
 Ei wyneb a gadwed  
 Ganwaith cyn bu lleith dorglwyd  
 Duchludent wys bryneich ymmhlymnwyd  
 Ef caned rhag Ei ofn ai arswyd oergerdd  
 Cyn bu dayr dogyn ei dwed

<sup>1</sup> Uchenaid.—Ll. E. D.

Haid hafal am wydwal gwnebrwyd  
 Gweineu gwaith llyfredd nog addwyd  
 Addoed hun dimyaw a gwynaf  
 Am lys am grys Cuneddaf  
 Am ryaflaw hallt am hydýrfer mor  
 Am breidd aswrn a ballaf<sup>2</sup>  
 Gwawd feirdd a ogon a ogaf<sup>3</sup>  
 Ac ereill a refon a rifaf  
 Rhyfeddawr yn erflawdd a naw cant gorwydd  
 Cyn cymun Cunedda  
 Rym afei biw blith yr Haf  
 Rym a fei eddystrawd y gayaf  
 Rym a fei win gloyw ag olew  
 Rym a fei toraf Keith<sup>4</sup> rhag untrew  
 Ef dyfal o gressur o gyflew gweladur  
 Pennadur pryd llew lludwy uedes gywlad<sup>5</sup>  
 Rhag mab edern cyn edyrn anaewl  
 Ef dywal diarchar dieding  
 Am ryfreu angeu dychyfing  
 Ef goborthi aes yman raggerawl  
 Gwir gwrawl oedd ei unbyn  
 Dymhun a chyfatcun a thal gwin Kamda  
 Difa hun o Goeling.—*Myv.*, i. 71.

This poem does not call for much critical comment. Its orthography, tested by the occurrence of the *dd*, introduced by Dr. Davies against all rule and reason, shows this copy to have been made in, or subsequent to, the sixteenth century; but its language and composition indicates a high antiquity; and indeed it requires but a careful comparison between it and the *Gododin* to show that both poems belong to the same period. It has the same alliteration of initial consonants; the same terseness of expression; and the same phraseological forms as the poems of Aneurin. For instance,—

“ Dychyfal, dychyfun, dynfveis  
 Dyfngleis dychyfun,”

resemble,

“ Meirch mwth myngfras ; ”

<sup>2</sup> Am beirdd a swrn a ballaf.—*Ll. E. D.*

<sup>3</sup> *Cyn y rhagflaenol yn*.—*Ibid.*

<sup>4</sup> Torof.—*Ibid.*      <sup>5</sup> Uedei.—*Ibid.*

and,

“ Gwefrawr godrwyawr torchawr am ran  
Bu guefraur guerthfawr guerth gwinvan.”

And,

“ Rhag mab Edern cyn edyrn anaew  
Ef dywai diarchar dieding”

bear such a close resemblance to the

“ Edyrn diedyrn a mygyn dir”

and other lines in Aneurin, that one is almost induced to conclude that Taliesin had shown him his *Marwnad Cunedda*, or that he had seen it before composing the *Gododin*.

One other remark seems called for by the opening lines. The prominence here given to the rite of baptism, appears to indicate the progress which Christianity had made in Britain; but the transition from Druidism to Christianity has never yet been treated with the minuteness which it deserves. Mr. Williams, the careful author of the *Ecclesiastical Antiquities of the Cymry*, is the only writer who has attempted to bridge over the chasm; and even his treatment of it has been more sketchy than it should have been; but his conclusion is certainly sound—that in some instances the bards of the old worship became the ministers of the new. I have arrived at the same result, but by a different process; and when the poems of the bards have been subjected to a searching criticism, we shall obtain materials, not only for a convincing demonstration of the early Christianity of Britain, but also for an interesting history of the progress which the Gospel made among the inhabitants of this island long prior to the arrival of Augustine. Mr. Hallam some time ago attempted to deny the existence of an early British church; but I am convinced that when the bardic poems have been made to unfold their meaning, this truth will be no longer doubtful. This is scarcely the proper place for a dissertation upon that subject; but from time to time I shall call attention to such passages as bear upon this point; and at some future time I may

present the whole of them in a collective form. I have stated that the Druids and bards became the ministers of Christianity ; and it should be observed that the bitter antagonism supposed to have existed between them, was rather an exception than the rule ; but the Christianity of the bards was not remarkable for purity, as much of the old leaven was still allowed to remain, and instances of apostacy are not unknown. Of the fact that the bardic and clerical functions were frequently combined, there need be no doubt. Cuhelyn, and after him Aneurin, appears to have acted in this double capacity. In No. II. of this series it was shown that Taliesin did so ; and the prominent place here assigned to the Christian rite of baptism is confirmation strong of the same position.

It is now time for us to return to the poem, of which the following is offered as a fair translation :—

#### THE ELEGY OF CUNEDDA.

I am Taliesin the Ardent !  
 In song I will extol Baptism :  
 At the baptism of the Ruler, his dales were astonished ;  
 In conflict on hill, in wood, or on plain,  
 Cuneddaff the burner was the causer of tremor.  
 In Lancaster and Carlisle,  
 There is trepidation on account of the mutual encounter ;  
 Just as fire surges through the rushes of the field,  
 So appeared the brave in pulling down each other.  
 When he had his day above the soil,  
 He was like the roaring wind, with the ashen spear ;  
 And it became summer-time for dogs, when he was near.<sup>6</sup>  
 He was the protector and friend of the believer,  
 And skilful bards he clothed in canonicals :  
 The death of Cuneddaff has been mourned, and I mourn it.  
 Mourned be the thick door and fearless hurler ;  
 He could coincide with and agree to a deep design ;  
 With deep wounding he was accordant.  
 His discourse cheered up the poverty stricken ;  
 But (he was) harder than bone to an enemy.  
 In ascending, before (he was placed in) the furrow and (under)  
     the sod,  
 He kept his face aloft (in battle) :

<sup>6</sup> *I. e.*, they had abundance of prey.

A hundred times before the guard-gate was slain,  
 The inhabitants of Bryneich were borne away from conflict.  
 There was sung a cold song, from fear and terror of him,  
 Before a spot of earth became his dwelling,  
 And before there was a swarm (of beasts of prey) about the  
     lowly bed of his countenance,  
 Doing a more cowardly work than death.  
 I grieve for the wakeless sleep of destiny,  
 For the palace, and the shroud of Cuneddaff,  
 For the salt tears, for the freely dropping sea,  
 And for the prey and the gifts I lose :  
 Bards of song will glorify, where I glorify,  
 And others will reckon, where I reckon now.  
 Wonderful he was in the nimble slaughter with nine hundred  
     steeds ;  
 Before the cutting down of Cunedda,<sup>7</sup>  
 There was for me a milch cow in summer,  
 There was for me a horse in winter,  
 There were for me clear wine and oil,  
 There was a close door to prevent sneezing.  
 They would be slow in starving who ate together in his sight.  
 A sovereign with the countenance of an excited lion, possessed  
     the confederated country  
 Of the son of Edern. Before the ruler became incurable  
 He was fierce, dauntless, and irresistible ;  
 His life streams are in the confinement of death.  
 He supported the buckler in the celebrated place,  
 And truly valorous was his supremacy.  
 (But now) there is wakelessness, mutual condolence, and a pale  
     forehead :  
 A wrong it is, that sleep should consume the *Believer*.

Such, to the best of my judgment, is a correct English version of this ancient poem. Mr. Davies, in his *Essay on Ossian*, has also given a translation of this poem ; and the Rev. J. Williams (*Eccles. Antiq.*) has given his sanction thereto ; but I have seldom been able to agree with the renderings of Mr. Davies ; and there is scarcely a single line translated in the same way. By way of illus-

<sup>7</sup> This may be translated, and perhaps more properly,—

“ Before Cunedda took the (last) communion.”

—See Williams’ *Eccles. Antiq.*, p. 284, for remarks illustrative of this practice.

trating this assertion, and of vindicating my own version, I will cite the opening line :—

“ *Mydwyf Taliessin derydd.*”

This has been rendered thus by Davies,—

“ *I, who am Taliesin, a man of the oaks,*”

but the plural of *derwen*, an oak, is *deri*, not *derydd*, which means ardent, vehement, quick, or nimble. In this instance Mr. Williams has improved upon the translation, which he follows in other cases; and he renders the line thus :—

“ *I, who am Taliesin the Druid;*”

yet the word in the original is not *derwydd*, but *derydd*; and as this word has a meaning sufficiently appropriate, and is in perfect accordance with the bardic practice of eulogizing themselves, there is no sufficient reason for substituting another word in its place. What has here been urged respecting the first line, will apply to all the others; in all cases I have some reason, satisfactory to myself, for departing from the other translation; but in no instance have I so departed for the mere sake of creating a difference. Indeed, when beset with a difficulty—and there are several in this poem—I have once or twice thought of sheltering myself under the authority of my predecessor, even while unsatisfied with his views; but further research has generally ridden me of my perplexities; and it is believed that the preceding is a tolerably accurate translation.

Let us therefore proceed to consider the chronological difficulty already shown to exist. Cunedda Wledig is placed by Owen, Rees, and Williams, at the close of the fourth century. Are they justified in so doing? After a very careful consideration of the subject I have come to the conclusion that they are not; and for this assertion I assign the following reasons :—

I.—The evidence on which so great an antiquity is assigned to Cunedda, is in the highest degree unsatisfactory. We have already cited a passage from Owen's *Cambrian Biography*; and let us now quote the article

CUNEDDA WLEDIG, as it stands in Williams' *Biographical Dictionary* :—

“CUNEDDA (WLEDIG,) was the son of Edeyrn ab Padarn Beisrudd (Padarn the red-kilted), by Gwawl the daughter of Coel Coedhebawg. He was sovereign of the Strathclyde Britons, where he began to reign about A.D. 328, and he inherited from his mother extensive possessions in Wales. When these were invaded and held in possession by the Irish, Cunedda, having a large family, sent many of his sons to Wales for the purpose of expelling them, in which object they were successful, and they themselves settled in the country. His eldest son Tybiawn died in the isle of Man, but his son Meirion ab Tybiawn, possessed and gave his name to the cantrev of Meirion, or Merionethshire ; Arwystl ab Cunedda had Arwystli, and Einion had Caer Einion, in Montgomeryshire ; Ceredig had Ceredigion, or Cardiganshire ; Dunod had Dunodig, in Caernarvonshire ; Edeyrn had Edeyrnion in Merionethshire ; Mael had Dinmael ; Coel had Coleion ; Dogvael had Dogvaelin ; Rhuvon had Rhuvoniog ; which are all in Denbighshire ; and Oswal had Osweilin or Oswaldtree, in Shropshire. Several others of his sons and grandsons devoted themselves to religion, when deprived of their territories by the Picts and Saxons. Whence the family of Cunedda is recorded in the Triads with those of Bran and Brychan, as the three ‘*gwelygoredd sanctaidd*,’ or holy families of the isle of Britain, and Cunedda is stated to have been the first who bestowed lands and privileges on the church in Britain. Cunedda died in A.D. 389.”

For this heap of assertions no other authority is cited than *Myv.*, ii. 61, where we shall simply find an account of “The Three Blessed Families,” and not a word about the death in A.D. 389. The only authority is Owen, whom the two learned Williamses take for their guide, and he gives no authority at all. Professor Rees, who is generally a most careful and trustworthy writer, rejects Owen’s positive and precise dates of 328 and 389 ; he places the expulsion of the Irish by the sons of Cunedda between 420 and 430 ; and he assigns as his authorities, the Silurian *Achau y Saint*, and Nennius. On referring to *Achau y Saint*, (*Iolo MSS.*, p. 122,) we find no dates at all ; and so far as these documents are concerned, there is no evidence for placing the expulsion of the Irish in 420. Indeed, if the Silurian documents prove anything at all,

they prove that this assertion is incorrect. It is stated (*Iolo MSS.*, 123) that the Irish came hither in the time of Maximus, from 383 to 388; and in other places we are repeatedly told that they remained here 129 years. This brings the date of their expulsion to about A.D. 517. It is however to be borne in mind that this is the date when Caswallon Law Hir, the grandson of Cunedda, expelled the Irish from Anglesey. Some allowance must be made, *i. e.*, assuming the truth of the asserted expulsion, for the difference in age between Cunedda's eldest (?) son and his grandson; but a *hundred years* is a little too much; and even then, it should be borne in mind that Brochwel Powys was living when his grandson Selyv ab Cynan Garwyn fell in mature age, and as a distinguished warrior, at the battle of Bangor, about 613. Let us therefore place the exploit of Caswallon Law Hir about 517, and then the expulsion of the Irish from South Wales, would fall somewhat earlier, but certainly not much before 500.

Let us proceed in the next place to consider the passages from Nennius which bear upon this question, and which I will quote from the *Monumenta Historica* :—

“ Filii autem Liethan obtinuerunt regionem Dimectorum, ubi civitas est quæ vocatur Mineu, et in aliis regionibus se dilataverunt, id est Guhier, Cetgueli, donec expulsi sunt a Cunedda, et a filiis ejus, ab omnibus regionibus Britannicis.”—Cap. viii.

“ Mailcunus magnus rex apud Britones regnabat, id est in regione Gwenedotæ, quia atavus illius, id est Cunedag, cum filiis suis, quorum numerus octo erat, venerat prius de parte sinistrali, id est de regione quæ vocatur Manau Guotodin, CXLVI. annis ante quam Mailcun regnaret; et Scottos cum ingentissima clade expulerunt ab istis regionibus, et nusquam reversi sunt iterum ad habitandum.”—P. 75.

These passages are thus translated by Dr. Giles :—

§ 14.—“ The sons of Liethali (Liethan, Bethan, or Vethan) obtained the country of the Dimetæ, where is a city called Menavia (St. David's), and the province Guiher (Gower), and Cetgueli, which they held till they were expelled from every part of Britain, by Cunedda and his sons.”

§ 62.—“ The great king, Mailcun, reigned among the Britons,

*i. e.*, in the district of Gwenedota, because his great-great-grandfather<sup>8</sup> Cunedda, with his twelve sons,<sup>9</sup> had come before from the left hand, *i. e.*, from the country which is called Manau Guotodin (Gododin), 146 years before Mailcun reigned, and expelled the Scots with much slaughter from those countries, and they never returned again to inhabit them."

At first sight the date here given appears fatal to all attempts to bring down Cunedda from the fourth to the sixth century; but upon close examination even this obstacle gives way. All the accounts agree in fixing the conquest of Gwynedd in the time of Maelgwn's father, Caswallon Law Hir; and he could not have lived very long, inasmuch as we find his son and successor, Maelgwn, charged by Gildas with defrauding his father's brother<sup>1</sup> of his just rights. Nennius is therefore wrong in asserting that the conquest of Gwynedd was due to Cunedda; and these considerations tend to show that this event could not have taken place many years before the accession of Maelgwn himself. It is not easy to ascertain the exact date of his death; Sir John Price places it in 590; Mr. Wynne (*Cambrian Register*, ii. p. 521), about 564; Mr. Owen, in 560; an old document quoted in Wynne's letter, 552; the *Annales Cambriæ*, in 547; and others in 546. This last was probably the date which Nennius had in view: 146 years deducted from that gives us A.D. 400, the date generally assigned to *the arrival of the Irish*—not of their expulsion! The documents which relate the expulsion of the Gwyddel are, generally speaking, not very good authorities; but there is a striking unanimity in referring the Irish settlement to this period; and the reason assigned, *i. e.*, the weakness induced by the levies of Maximus, stamps the

<sup>8</sup> Dr. Giles has one generation too many here; both the meaning of *atus*, great-grandfather, and the genealogy of Maelgwn, convict him of being in error.

<sup>9</sup> Octo, eight, in the original, of which there is no various reading in the *Monumenta*; Cunedda had twelve sons notwithstanding.

<sup>1</sup> Probably his uncle Owain Danwyn, or Einion frenhin, who is by the *Iolo MSS.* said to be the son of Einion Yrth, and by Rees to be the son of Owain Danwyn.

assertion with probability, particularly when coupled with the fact that in 409 the Romans withdrew from the island. During the Roman occupation such a colonization could not have taken place ; and the people who were too weak to prevent their settlement, could scarcely have been strong enough twenty years after to expel them from the island. Indeed, we have the best reasons to believe that they were not in a position to do any such thing ; for the Cymry of Strathclyde were unable even to keep the Picts in check without foreign assistance. In 418 Stilicho came over to assist the whining Britons ; and in 435, after much petitioning, Ætius sent them Roman assistance a second time ; and as there is no doubt of their incapacity at that time, the Irish could not have been expelled, until the internal strength of the country had become more fully developed. Let us add to this, that as Einion Yrth is only known in pedigrees, and Caswallon Law Hir occupies but a small place in history, it is not unlikely that Maelgwn may have been reigning during the lifetime of Cunedda.

This is borne out in a subsequent passage by Professor Rees. At page 110 he places the conquest by the sons of Cunedda between 420 and 430 ; but at p. 166, speaking of the conquest of Anglesey by the grandson, Caswallon, who was assisted by his cousin, he places it full seventy years later. His words are :—" Though the precise time of the event is not mentioned, there are reasons for supposing that it took place near the close of the (fifth) century." And if so, there are reasons for believing that the lapse of time between the two conquests was nearer seventeen than seventy years.

II.—Such appears to be a fair conclusion from these premises ; and the evidence supplied by the poem accords well with this supposition. We are told that Cunedda was lord of Carlisle and Lancaster, that he was an Unben or Gwledig, *i. e.*, king of the kings of North Britain, and that he warred against the inhabitants of Berenicia, who, in the poems of Llywarch, Taliesin, and Aneurin, are always found to be the Anglian settlers in Northum-

bria. And thus at one swoop Cunedda descends into the Saxon era ! The lines are these :—

“ Before the guard-gate was slain,  
A hundred times were the inhabitants of Bryneich borne  
away from conflict ;  
From fear and terror of him, cold was the song they sung,  
Before a spot of earth became his share.”

We may safely assume that the Bryneich here mentioned were the Angles of Northumbria ; and it therefore becomes of importance for us to determine the date of this Anglian settlement. This we shall do in the words of Palgrave :—

“ The British kingdoms of Deyfyr and Bryneich (latinized into Deira and Bernicia), extending from the Humber to the Firth of Forth, were divided from each other by a forest, occupying the tract between the Tyne and the Tees ; and which, unreclaimed by man, was abandoned to the wild-deer. Properly speaking, this borderland (now the bishopric of Durham) does not seem originally to have belonged to either kingdom ; but, in subsequent times, the boundary between Deira and Bernicia was usually fixed at the Tyne. The transhumbrane countries were exposed at an early period to the attacks of the Jutes and Saxons. Some chroniclers say that Octa and Ebusa, sons of Hengist, conquered a portion of the country. At the onset the invaders made little progress. The Britons of the neighbouring Reged and Strath Clyde, governed by valiant princes, the descendants of the Roman Maximus, appear to have possessed more unity than their brethren in the south ; and their efforts supported the population of Deira and Bernicia in resisting their enemies. The scale was evenly poised until the English Ida (before A.D. 547) landed at the promontory called Flamborough Head, with forty vessels, all manned with chosen warriors. Urien, the hero of the bards, opposed a strenuous resistance, but the Angles had strengthened themselves on the coast. Fresh reinforcements poured in ; and Ida the “ Bearer of Flame,” as he was termed by the Britons, became the master and sovereign of the land which he had assailed. Ida erected a tower or fortress, which was at once his castle and his palace ; and so deeply were the Britons humiliated by this token of his power, that they gave the name of “ Gwarth Bryneich,” or the *Shame of Bernicia*, to the structure which he had raised. Ida afterwards bestowed this building upon his queen Bebba, from whom it was, or rather is, denominated *Bebbanburgh*, the burgh or fortress of Bebba, commonly abbre-

viated into *Bamborough*. The keep yet stands; and the voyager, following the course of the abbess of St. Hilda, may yet see

‘ King Ida’s castle huge and square  
From its tall rock look grimly down,  
And on the swelling ocean frown.’

Ida’s dominions were intersected by tracts still belonging to the Britons, who ultimately yielded to the invaders.”—*Anglo-Saxons*, pp. 43, 44.

Ida reigned twelve years, and fell about 560 before the victorious blade of Owen ab Urien Rheged. It is therefore all but certain that Cunedda was engaged in the early part of this struggle, and that he fell in one of the great battles fought at that time. It is not improbable that Cunedda may have fallen in the battle of Argoed Llwyvain, described by Taliesin in another poem :—

“ Dygrysowys Fflamddwyn yn bedwarllu  
Goddeu a Rheged i ymdyllu  
Dyfwy o Argoed i Arfynydd.”

The flambearer (Ida) approached in four divisions ;  
Goddeu (Cumberland) and Rheged (Lancaster) to array themselves,  
Came from Argoed to Arfynydd.

It is therefore clear that both the forces of the Cunedda family and those of Urien were engaged in that fight ; and those districts are both said to have suffered trepidation from the encounter in which Cunedda fell. Further, the battle-field is called in the one poem “the excellent place ;” and the battle itself is described in the other to have been one of great magnitude :—

“ On the morning of Saturday there was a great battle,  
From the rising to the setting of the sun.”

From these facts, and the allusion to the Bryneich, I conclude the two poems refer to the same event, which was subsequent to 547 ; but this is only conjecture.

This brings the close of his life down to 550 ; and we can now understand the assertion that Urien Rheged co-operated with the sons of Cunedda in expelling the Irish from Gower and South Wales. Prior to the arrival

of Ida, the chiefs of the north of England were in a position to accomplish such an undertaking; afterwards the Angles found them employment; and therefore we have here another reason for fixing that event about A.D. 500.

The same conclusion is supported by some passages in *Llywarch Hen* :—

“ Trust not Bran, trust not Dunawd,  
That thou shalt not find wounded by them  
The pastor of the flock of Llanfor, who guides our path.”  
*Rees.*

The bard spent the latter part of his life at Llanfor, on the Dee, in Merionethshire; and if Rees is right in his translation, Dunod the son of Cunedda, and lord of the adjoining cantrev of Dunoding, was Llywarch's contemporary, even in his old age. But in truth neither Owen nor Rees have given a correct translation. The lines should be read thus :—

“ Believe not Bran, believe not Dunawd,  
Thou shalt not have from them one blow (in thy cause)  
Herdsman of the calves of the paths of Llanvor.”

Llywarch lived to about A.D. 642; and as this was composed in the latter part of his life, this Dunawd would probably be the son of Pabo Post Prydain. Gwenaseth, the daughter of Rhuvon ab Cunedda, married either Pabo (*Cambrian Biography, sub. Gwenaseth*) or Sawyl his son (*Bonedd y Saint, Myv.*, ii. 27). Adopting the latter authority, (which is of course the best,) the granddaughter of Cunedda must have lived in the latter half of the sixth century, as Sawyl was the brother of Dunawd; and “Dunaut rex moritur” in A.D. 595, according to the *Annales Cambriae*.

This explanation is in accordance with other events. Professor Rees (p. 136) relates a dispute between a prince named Coroticus and St. Patrick, who denounces him and his followers as pirates and marauders, in a long letter, which is admitted to be the genuine production of that saint. Upon the assumption that Patrick died in 457, the letter is sometimes supposed to have been com-

posed in 450; but if we take the date given for his death in the *Annals of Tigernach*, viz., 491, and allow a margin of eleven years, we should, by the same rule, date it in 480. If we take Mr. Owen's figures, and assume Ceredig to be born when his father began to reign, *i. e.*, in 328, this prince who, though a Christian, was still a pirate, had in 450 attained the respectable age of 122. We must therefore either abandon Mr. Owen's figures, or deny the identity of Coroticus and Ceredig ab Cunedda. The second date falls in more naturally with the other events; and the adventurous pirate of 480 might very well have become sobered down into the conqueror of Cardigan at the beginning of the following century.

Other incidental proofs are supplied by the *Gododin*, which shows a grandson and great-grandson of Cunedda to have been present at the battle of Cattraeth, the date of which, or at all events an approximation thereto, is obtained in this way. In verse third, Manawyd ab Llyr ab Brochwel, generally but erroneously called Manawyddan ab Llyr Llediaith, is said to have been "preserved from the blows of Mannan-fight," and afterwards to have been at the battle of Cattraeth. The battle of Mannan took place in 582: *ergo*, the battle of Cattraeth was some time afterwards, *i. e.*, according to my hypothesis, in 603. In verse second we find the following lines:—

"Mab Brwyn gommynai gwyr nytelhei  
Nys adrawdd Gododin ar lawr mordei  
Rac peyll Madawc pan atcorei  
Namyn un o gant yn y delei."

Some MSS. read "Mal brwyn," but the next word would have been *cymmynai*, if that had been the proper reading. Brwyn is not named in the pedigrees of Cunedda, though that monarch is well known to have had a son so named. Brwyn ab Cunedda distinguished himself as a warrior against the Saxons, (Williams' *Biographical Dictionary*), and Madoc ab Brwyn, mentioned in the *Triads*, was probably Cunedda's grandson. Again, in verse fourth, we have the lines:—

"O gyssul mab Ysgyran  
Ysgwyd wr angyfan."

This word *cyssul* is usually translated "counsel;" but that does not make very good sense; and I suspect it to be a proper name, that of—

Tyssul ab (Ys or St.) Corun ab Ceredig ab Cunedda.

When the time comes, I shall have a word to say respecting the antedating of Coel Godebog, Brychan, and others; but for the present this will suffice.

From these researches we are enabled to obtain the following facts for the biography of Cunedda. He was king of Cumberland. This was the Manau Gododin of Nennius; and we are enabled, from the poems of Aneurin, to determine that the dominions of the Ottadini lay east and south-west, and not south and north from Berwick to Edinburgh, as is generally supposed. The poem places his dominions in Cumberland, while Urien had Lancaster; and the *Iolo MSS.* (p. 552) state that he held his court in Carlisle. From the notices of Ceredig and Tybiawn, we learn that his sons were expert sailors, and fond of the sea. He was a man of considerable influence in his own district, and for his military attainments, he was made the Gwledig or Commander-in-chief of the North British forces during the latter part of his lifetime. He could bring into the field 900 horsemen; and this, according to Davies, (*Note to his Ossian*, p. 30,) was precisely the force assigned to that officer under the Romans, who was styled *Dux Britanniae*. (See Camden's *Introduction*.) He took an active part in repelling the Anglian invaders of Northumbria, and fell bravely fighting on the field of battle, in one of those great contests which obtained celebrity from the fact that the Britons came off victorious. Humphrey Lluyd conjectures that he had been driven from his possessions by the Saxons; and Professor Rees supposes that he took refuge among his mother's kindred in Wales. For these conjectures there is no foundation in fact, as this poem represents him to have fallen in the arms of victory in his own country, and

Carlisle and Lancaster are said to have mourned the result of his hostile encounter with the Angles. His elder sons appear to have emigrated into Wales; but Brwyn appears to have inherited his possessions, and after him his grandson, Madoc ab Brwyn.

No difficulty will now be experienced in attributing this poem to Taliesin. It is perhaps one of his earliest productions; its composition indicates a mind in full vigour; and the opening lines are clear evidences that the bard felt himself to be in the full possession of his mental powers. The bard attached himself to the family of his hero; he was a frequent visitor at the court of the heir of Ceredig, at Bangor Teivy; and the following notice shows him to have drawn his last breath under the hospitable roof of the grandson of Cunedda:—

“Taliesin, in his old age, returned to Caer-gwyroswydd, to Riwallon the son of Urien; after which he visited Cedig the son of Ceredig, the son of Cuneddav Wledig, where he died, and was buried with high honours, such as should always be shown to a man who ranked high among the principal wise men of the Cimbric nation; and Taliesin, chief of bards, was the highest of the most exalted class, either in literature, wisdom, the science of vocal song, or any other attainment, whether sacred or profane.”—*Iolo MSS.*, p. 467.

No doubts need now exist that Ceredig was the successor of Maelgwn, and the person named by Aneurin. He died, according to the *Annales Cambriæ*, in A.D. 615, when he must have been an old man.

T. STEPHENS.

Merthyr, November 24, 1851.

P.S.—In recent researches in the British Museum, I found the author of the line respecting Aerven. It is Madoc ab Gronow Gethin. I am much obliged to the Editor for his note.

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## TUMULI, MERIONETHSHIRE.

## I.—CARNEDD NEAR GOLEUWERN, PARISH OF LLANEGRIN.

THERE being no specific name given either on the Ordnance map or by the country people to the mountain on which this carnedd is situated, it is not easy to mark its identity for the guidance of future antiquaries. It is situated on a mountain on the eastern side of the estuary of the Mawddach. Goleuwern, which is the farm nearest to it, is situated on the mountain side, lower down than the carnedd, and to the north of it. An old bridle road leading from Llwyngwrl towards Dolgellau skirts the carnedd on the north, and the mountain on which it lies is part of the waste of the manor of Talybont. From it a fine view is obtained of Barmouth and its picturesque rocks, the estuary of the Mawddach, the distant mountains of Diphwys, and the chain of Llawllech, with the intervening varied scene, and the whole line of the Caernarvonshire coast to the promontory of Llyn, with the island of Bardsey at its extremity.

Mr. W. W. E. Wynne having invited me to join him in a general examination of the carneddau in this neighbourhood, we commenced our researches here on the 6th of September last. On our approach its appearance was that of a low mound, thinly coated over with mountain turf, through which here and there stones of moderate size protruded. It measured thirty-four by thirty-eight feet in diameter; its elevation was low, and its apex depressed, and nearly flat.<sup>1</sup> We made a circular excavation at the centre of it, and we found that it consisted entirely of stones, disposed with some regularity bedwise, and increasing in size as our excavation deepened. After a short time we came to some large, flat stones, which were laid as a protection to the covering-stone of a cist, the top of which was one foot seven inches below the apex. This cist, which lay pretty nearly north and south, on its eastern and western sides was strongly protected by large blocks

<sup>1</sup> Its shape resembled that of Sir R. Hoare's broad or bowl barrows.

of stone. The eastern side had given way, and leaned inwards considerably out of the perpendicular; in form it was rectangular, and had a division placed across it at the distance of ten inches and three quarters from its northern extremity; from this division to its southern extremity it measured two feet ten inches, and had in each compartment the uniform width of one foot nine inches; its depth was one foot five inches. The covering-stone little corresponded with the cist, and was of an irregular, though somewhat of a triangular, form; so that it is difficult to give its dimensions. It required the united strength of two men to lift it. On first removing the covering-stone we were struck with the singular appearance of the deposit, which presented an even surface carefully strewed with flakes or chippings of stone, resembling in character the ordinary stone found upon the mountain; these covered a deposit of moist, clammy, yellowish, gravelly soil, with which the cist seemed to have been filled up to the height of three or four inches. This soil we carefully looked through, but without discovering any remnants of bone, or anything resembling a relic, either ornamental or warlike, excepting one piece of stone, now in the possession of W. W. E. Wynne, Esq., which was convex on one side, flat on the other, and rudely pointed at one end; the nature of the stone it was made of we are unable to describe geologically; we can only say that it was not of flint, but of a common and rather soft stone. We found it on the western side, and about the centre of the cist; not, as far as we could ascertain, deposited with any care. The smaller compartment at the northern extremity of the cist was filled up with large stones, beneath which was a similar stratum of gravelly soil. I have called this sepulchral monument a "carnedd"—and rightly so, I think—for I consider this term is properly applied to all such remains which are built purely with stone; and such a carnedd as that I now treat of, I am inclined to ascribe to very great antiquity; for whether we are to conclude that bones never were deposited within the cist,

or that such as had been deposited had returned to their native dust, or whether we are to believe that we detected the presence or absence of stone weapons and other such relics—in either case we have all the evidence usually obtained of a rude and untutored age; how many centuries back we will not presume to fix; but I think, without doubt, from the size and construction of the cist, we may conclude that this carnedd belongs to the burning period; and from my experience of similar carneddau in which I have found burnt bones in very small particles mixed with soil placed in the cist, I think it possible that bones burnt had been so mixed with the soil of this cist, and had crumbled away; but that the colour of the soil made it more difficult to distinguish the bony particles, and thus they may have escaped our observation. Then if this carnedd is rightly ascribed to the burning period, are we to draw any inference from *the absence of a funeral urn?* Mr. Wynne and myself have opened five or six carneddau on the hills<sup>2</sup> in this neighbourhood—in none have we found urns—in all, traces of cremation; yet there is no remarkable lack of clay in these soils. Stone is certainly universally used in building here, but only I think because it is everywhere easily attainable, and with less expense than brick—reasons which would scarcely have found a place with our rude forefathers to influence them to any deviation from their sacred sepulchral rites. But besides this, we were informed by Mr. Edw. Roberts of Dyssevin, that some years ago he lived near a farm called Sylvan, now held by Mr. Morris, and that when the mountains in that neighbourhood were enclosed, several carneddau were pulled down to furnish stone for the enclosure walls, he on that occasion saw several vessels of clay<sup>3</sup> which were discovered in those carneddau. Then here we find carneddau, in this very neighbourhood,<sup>4</sup> containing urns. Now perhaps there is no custom

<sup>2</sup> The hills north and south of the Mawddach.

<sup>3</sup> These vessels he described as placed in “rude stone chests.”

<sup>4</sup> Sylvan is the other side of the vale,—the northern side of the estuary of the Mawddach.

of which nations are so tenacious as that relating to sepulture; and of this we find abundant proof both in ancient and modern races. I therefore think we must conclude either that this carnedd was raised at a period when men were strangers to the fictile art; or by a race among whom the cinerary urn was not in use: that this carnedd affords evidence of an occupation here at a time when our forefathers had scarce trod the first steps of civilization; or traces of an extirpated race, whose memorials have well nigh perished with them. The preference for a *carnedd*, too, or mound of *stones*, should not be lost sight of in our reflections upon these monuments of the past. Leaving this part of the subject for the present, we will, in the next Number, pass on to the examination of some other carneddau of similar construction and character.

W. WYNNE FOULKES,  
*General Secretary.*

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### Cambrian Archæological Association.

THE following appointments and official changes have been made since the Annual Meeting in August.

The Hon. Robert Henry Clive, M.P., has accepted the office of President for the year 1852-3.

James Dearden, Esq., F.S.A., Vice-President and Treasurer, has resigned the latter office, which he had held from the first formation of the Society. He has been succeeded in it by Thomas Allen, Esq., of Freestone, near Pembroke.

The following gentlemen have been appointed Local Secretaries; viz:—

*Monmouthshire*,—The Ven. Archdeacon Williams, (of Llantaff,) Llanvapley, Monmouth.

*Montgomeryshire*,—The Rev. John Jones, Llanfair, Caereineon.

*Herefordshire*,—Jelinger C. Symons, Esq., H. M. Inspector of Schools.

*Gloucestershire*,—E. A. Freeman, Esq., Oaklands, Dursley.

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### Miscellaneous Notices.

**ANCIENT WELSH MSS.**—A correspondent calls our attention to the numerous MSS. regarding Wales in the British Museum, and in our Record Offices, as may be seen in the printed indexes. Among those of minor importance he mentions the *Lansdown MS.*, 62, as containing some particulars as to the Denbigh case and Leicester, in Queen Elizabeth's time; and the *Harleian MS.*, 2122, as containing a list of the sheriffs of Denbighshire from commencement 1541, to 1682, from which, as a guide to the position of families, he observes, that there are several Salusburys, Pulestons, Lloyds of Yale, Wynnes of Voelas, Hollands, Rosindale, or Lloyds, of Foxhall; 1552, Wm. Mostyn of Maes y Glasse; 1554, Robt. Massy of Maes mynnan; Ed. Conway, 1565; Simon Thelwall of Plas ward, 1572; William Myddelton of Gwaenonog, 1600; Mutton Davies of Llanerch, 1671; but no other names of families hitherto alluded to in our pages as having lived near Denbigh. He observes that the pedigree of Wynne of Voelas is very imperfect in Lewys Dwnn and Burke, and forwards us the following:—

#### WYNNE OF VOELAS,

derived from the "Hiraethog case," as reprinted in the *North Staffordshire Mercury*, Cheshire Assizes, 19th August, 1835, whence information regarding the Abbey of Conway may be derived.

1. Meredith ap Thomas
  2. Rees
  3. Maurice ap Rees ap Meredith, 1501, Steward of the Abbots of Aberconway
  4. Cadwallader ap Morris of Voe-las; Feb., 1546, a grant from Henry VIII.
  5. Robert Wyn ap Cadwallader, 1553-91. Steward of the Queen of the lands and tene-ments of the late monastery of Conway.
  6. Cadwallader Wynne, Sheriff of Denbighshire, 1606, Inq. p. m., 1612, (1605 in the above list).
  7. Robert Wynne, 1614, Sheriff= 1631, (letter to his cozин, 26th May, 1651).
- Robert Gethin ap Moris of Cernioge, Feb., 1546, a grant from Henry VIII.
- Robert Wyn Gethin, Inq. post m. 1603.
- Robert Gethin, 1624—after 1651, heiress to Kendrick.

See *Archaeologia Cambrensis*, vol. i. 351, n. 2; vol. ii. New Series, under *Man*; and, he continues, see further Burke's *Peerage and Landed Gentry*, under Aylesford, Salisbury, Bart., Price, Bart.; Wynne of Voelas, *Supplement*. It will be seen that No. 1 married Eva Wynne of Melai; No. 3, Anne, daughter of David Myddelton

of Gwaenenog; No. 5, Grace, daughter of Sir Roger Salusbury, which family undoubtedly came from Salebury,—Salebury Hall is mentioned in Whitaker's *Whalley*, and the MS. pedigrees at the College of Arms, &c.,—show that Gilbert de Salesbury, living 42 Henry III., was father of Adam (no doubt the Denbigh officer), and of Ranulph, whose grand-daughter and heiress Cecilia, living 23 Edward III., married Adam de Clitheroe, who then became of Salebury Hall.—(See *Arch. Camb.*, i. New Series, 153.) Also *Harleian MS.* 433,—"A warrant for 200 marks, residue of 1500, to Burgess' of Denbigh, by Edward IV., towards reedification of Town brent by certain rebels and traitors, 23 Feb., 1st year." 23rd February, 1st year, would have been 1461–2, but 1468 is the year named by Pennant, when Jasper Tudor, with 2000 Welsh, burnt the town; so that the 1st year refers to 1471–2, or the February after the final overthrow of Henry VI., in April, 1471.—(See Nicolas' *Chronology of History*.)

NOTICES OF CAERLEON AND LLANTARNAM.—In Mr. Wakeman's valuable paper on Caerleon, printed in your Third Volume, (First Series,) it is conjectured (*vide p. 342*) that what is called the priory at Caerleon, and the abbey of Llantarnam, were one and the same foundation. Through the kindness of the Bishop of Llandaff, I am enabled to confirm this hypothesis, from an original document in his Lordship's possession, viz., a Latin letter from William Nunam, Abbot of the monastery of the Blessed Virgin of Karelyon, *alias Lanternan*, and of the convent of the same place of the order of Cistercians; to the Reverend Father in God, John Bishop of Llandaff, presenting Matthew Hardyng, acolite, and begging that he may be admitted to holy orders. Dated in "our" chapter-house, the day of the annunciation of the Blessed Mary, A.D. 1465. The seal of the abbey is appendant in red wax,—the virgin and child under an enriched canopy; below, a kneeling figure.—JOHN M. TRAHERNE.

ANCIENT INSCRIBED STONE AT CHERITON.—At the November meeting of the Archaeological Institute of Great Britain, the Rev. J. M. Traherne exhibited a plaster cast from an inscribed stone of the early period, hitherto unnoticed, in Cheriton Church, Pembroke, and forwarded to him by the Earl of Cawdor. The letters are extremely rude, and some of them are reversed. The inscription may be read,—CANTORIS· FILI FANNVC· or FANNVC·. The little transverse — line at the end of the first and third words being intended as usual for an I. We hope shortly to be able to give an engraving of this stone.—I. O. W.

SEAL OF HAWYS GADARN, &c.—At the December meeting of the Archaeological Institute, Mr. Dawes exhibited an impression of the seal of Hawys Gadarn, daughter of Owen, Lord of Powys, *circa* 1261. The seal is very interesting, representing the full length figure of the lady, holding a shield bearing a coat of arms in each hand. Mr. Dawes accompanied the exhibition with some remarks on the heraldic bearings represented on the two shields.

At the same meeting Mr. Ffoulkes exhibited a rubbing of a large figure resembling the blade of a sword, of which there are a pair sculptured upon a rock, in an inclosure called "The Field of the

Swords," on a farm named Sylvaen between Barmouth and Dolgellau. An account of this sculpture, with its accompanying legend, affirming it to have been produced by King Arthur's throwing his sword against the rock, may be expected by the readers of the *Arch. Camb.* Mr. Westwood observed that a similar legend existed respecting the figure of a sword or dagger in the south wall of Corwen Church.

Mr. Ffoulkes also exhibited a rubbing of certain parallel impressed lines observed upon the top stone of the cromlech called Coed ys Tymgwern, near Cors y Gedol, Merionethshire, and suggested that these lines were analogous to the ornamental designs observed by Mr. Lukis, sculptured on the stones of the cromlechs in Guernsey. Dr. Mantell, the celebrated geologist, however, thought they were not artificial, but were the natural inequalities of the surface of the stone, caused by the gradual subsidence of the water, at the period when the stone was in a soft state.

A drawing was also exhibited of the curious carved stone pulpit at Newton Nottage, Glamorgan, the subject of the sculpture being apparently the flagellation of the Saviour, although it was observed that the figure of the Redeemer was destitute of a nimbus. A drawing of an Irish sculpture representing the same subject was however exhibited at the same time, in which the same peculiarity was observed.

At the same meeting, also, Mr. Westwood exhibited a rubbing of a small brass effigy of a priest, of the fourteenth century, from St. David's Cathedral, communicated by the Rev. W. Basil Jones, being an addition to the very few known Welsh brasses. It is now preserved in the house of the Archdeacon of Brecon.—I. O. W.

**CASTELL Y BERE.**—Whilst excavations were being lately made at Castell y Bere, a curious old seal turned up, bearing the inscription—  
S. RYS COC BYLY; meaning, perhaps, the seal of Rhys Goch y Beili. It is in the possession of W. W. E. Wynne, Esq., of Peniarth.

**CASTRA CLWYDIANA.**—We have much pleasure in giving the following list of subscriptions, &c., towards a continuation of Mr. Wynne Ffoulkes' interesting "Examination of the Clwydian Camps:"—

F. R. West, Esq., M.P. ....	£2 0 0	Excavations at Bodfari Camp, July 12.
J. Maurice, Esq. ....	1 0 0	To two men for one week at
Ven. Archdeacon Newcome ..	0 11 0	11s. per man ..... £1 2 0
Rev. J. Barwell .....	0 11 0	To one man do. do. at 12s... 0 12 0
Rev. C. W. Heaton .....	0 10 0	July 15.
Rev. E. Thelwall .....	0 11 0	To two men for one day at 2s.
W. Wynne Ffoulkes, Esq. ..	0 11 0	per man..... 0 4 0
A Friend .....	0 10 0	Balance in hand ..... 4 6 0
	£6 4 0	£6 4 0

**ERRATA.**—No. VII. p. 238, line 5 from bottom, *for Turney, read Turvey.* No. VIII. p. 279, last line (note), *for Tacitus, read Caesar de Bel. Gal., Lib. vi. cap. 19; for Germans, read Gauls.* P. 338, line 13, *for T. Beauchamp, Earl of Pembroke, read Warwick;* line 6 from bottom, *for Sir Walter Hubert, read Herbert.* P. 339, line 12, *for Lodovigeus, read Ludovicus.*

Ruins.

**THE ARCHÆOLOGY AND PREHISTORIC ANNALS OF SCOTLAND.** By  
DANIEL WILSON, Honorary Secretary of the Society of Anti-  
quaries, Scotland. 8vo. pp. 714. Edinburgh: Sutherland and  
Knox.

Mr. Wilson's book was issued in the spring of last year, and it was our intention, had not adverse circumstances interfered, to have introduced it to our readers six months ago. It is a large and handsome volume; in all its externals highly creditable to the metropolis of Scotland, which of late years has added largely to the literature of the united kingdom. Nor is it without a fair share of prominent attractions to the antiquary, the artist, or the casual reader, for it contains more than two hundred illustrations, including six excellent plates.

Within the last eight years the spirit of antiquarian investigation has been widely diffused throughout the whole of the British islands. Monuments of past ages have been sought for with increased ardour; others have been spared from the destruction to which ignorance and vitiated habits had exposed them; while, in not a few, the ravages of time have been repaired with taste and liberality. The whole generation of Oldbucks has passed away, and those who have risen up to fill their places are not only younger men with more enlarged minds, but they have fewer popular prejudices with which to struggle. The diminution of prejudice is in a great degree attributable to the results of modern investigation. The Rosetta stone led to the interpretation of the hieroglyphics, and put a tongue in every pyramid and obelisk of "the land of Ham." The monuments discovered at various points of North America, together with the records recovered at Copenhagen, give us insight into the history of that country long before the days of Columbus. The interpretation of the cuneiform inscriptions at Behistun, and elsewhere, is the result of modern literary investigation; and the relics of Nineveh, which the indefatigable Layard has recovered, promise to extend the minute history of the eastern world back for several centuries. Now the reading public have not been unconcerned spectators of these interesting results. They have learned that, in a sense which Shakspeare never intended, there may be "sermons in stones;" they have seen, in short, that while history is usually preserved in the paintings of words, it is sometimes recorded or illustrated by paintings of objects or of actions, and sometimes too by the existence of the objects themselves. This will serve to account for the antiquarian spirit which has spread of late years over the continent of Europe, and throughout the United States, as well as at home. Among ourselves, it has called into existence the Archæological Institute and Association in England, as well as our own Association on similar principles in Wales; it has given fresh spirit to the older societies in London and Edinburgh; it has originated several provincial societies; and it has almost created the

valuable museum of Irish antiquities in connexion with the Royal Irish Academy.

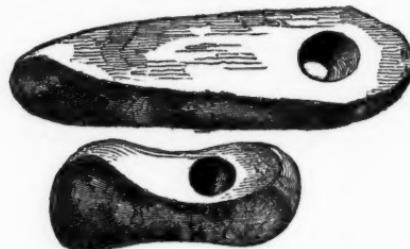
The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, with which Mr. Wilson is so prominently and usefully connected, was founded so long ago as 1780; and though in the interval since, it has had occasional disadvantages to contend with, and has seen periods of greater and less efficiency, its friends can still, with some allowance of honest pride, quote the Scottish motto, "*nec tamen consumebatur.*" It has succeeded in establishing a museum, in which many of the national antiquities are, and all of them should be, concentrated; and while the Royal Society of Edinburgh has narrowed its field of investigation of late years to the various branches of physical science, the Society of Antiquaries has kept the lamp of literature still burning.

Apart from the interesting fact that Scotland was recently a separate kingdom—with its varying interests, laws, religious system, and general policy—from England, it possesses features of great interest for the inquirer into the early history of these countries. Who were the Picts for instance? and who the Scots? are questions that have been often asked, and variously answered. It is certain that they were both portions of the great western wave of Celtic population, part of which settled in Hibernia, and part in Cambria; but whether these last were related fraternally, or merely as cousins-german, we need not stop to inquire. We are thus introduced at once to an examination of the manners and customs of some of the earliest people with whom we possess any acquaintance. Yet they were not the earliest inhabitants, as it is admitted on all hands. There are hundreds of proofs of the previous existence of a powerful and refined people, among whom the arts both of war and peace had made considerable progress, as well as of certain people of primitive manners and acquirements, occupying the lowest position in the scale of civilization. In addition to these general relations to the families of mankind, there were special invasions and immigrations. How little is known by the ordinary reader of history, of the period when the kings of Athol and the Isles, the maormars and thanes of the northern shires, or the Pictish reguli, exercised a jurisdiction distinct from that of the Scots; or when the Scandinavian aggressors, from their advanced post in the Shetlands, poured their warriors into Caledonia to measure swords with the children of the mist. England carries in its name the record of its conquerors; but Scotland, which owes its name to a Celtic tribe, is Saxon in its language, laws, and institutions. In fact, the south of Scotland was, in comparatively recent times, a part of England; and if we would investigate its history at even so modern a period as the Norman conquest, we must refer to the archives of the cathedral and castle of Durham.

Following the great outlines of human progress which Mr. Thomsen of Copenhagen originally suggested, and which Worsaae has lately brought prominently before the public, Mr. Wilson divides his subject into I.—The Primeval, or Stone Period; II.—The Archaic, or

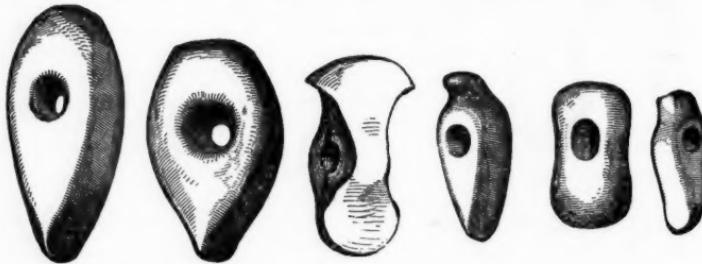
Bronze Period ; III.—The Teutonic, or Iron Period ; and IV.—The Christian Period. We are not certain that “Teutonic Period” and “Iron Period” are precisely synonymous terms even in Scotland ; but this is a small matter, and no doubt they are approximately so.

In treating of the first of these periods, of course the still earlier one is included, viz., that in which still more primitive instruments than stones were used, such as a wooden club in war, the antler of a deer for a dagger, or a spear pointed with a splinter of bone. Some of the illustrations, *e. g.*, those at pp. 143 and 144, exhibit ancient implements of bone, such as a dagger, pins, bodkins, &c. ; and others are



Stone Axes.

occasionally referred to. It appears to us that this was the most difficult of the four sections to write, and that it is also the one in which the author has exhibited the greatest amount of skill. It refers to a period, or to periods, of the most remote antiquity. The ground is almost untrodden ; and even when the footprints of a previous traveller exist, they often tend to lead the honest investigator



Stone Hammers, representing the Axe Malleus, the Malleus proper, and the Double Axe.

astray. Besides, most writers on special departments of antiquity have theories to maintain, crotchetts to support, so that the writer who wishes merely to record facts, occasionally finds himself rousing the ire or the superstition of his fellow men, by quietly knocking on the head one of their idols. In another point of view, this section is peculiarly deserving of attention. The geologist tells us that he is the

only genuine antiquary ; for that while we investigate the works in metals, he speaks of periods before these metals were formed ; while

we talk of the styles of architecture in our cathedrals, he investigates the materials of which their stones are composed, and the process of formation. Now, Mr. Wilson has shown practically—what his countryman, Hugh Miller, suggested theoretically,—that ordinary antiquities “piece on”, to the inquiries and researches of the geologist. He has also pressed into the service anatomy, osteology, and phrenology, so that not a little is learned of the ancient bone men and stone men from their personal relics, as well as from the remains of their rude implements. The illustrations in this paragraph refer to this period.

The second and third periods presented in one sense less difficulty of investigation, for they had been examined both as a whole, and in reference to individual facts, by many previous inquirers. Great praise is due to Mr. Wilson for the pains with which he has collected facts, and for the skill with which he has sometimes grouped his information. A single article rarely found, and little known in Scotland, has afforded him a peg on which to hang interesting details from England, Denmark, France, or Ireland. The numerous journals and monographs of modern times have thus been useful in supplying collateral and illustrative materials, without which it would not be so easy to generalize and systematize, with any hope of accuracy, from the products of a single country.



Flint Arrow-Head from the Isle of Skye, now in the possession of Mr. J. Bell, Dungannon.



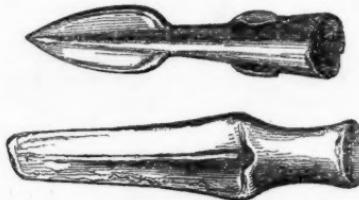
Bronze Spear-Head, with loops for mounting.

We notice, too, the brotherly spirit of archeologists, for some of the illustrations in the book may be recognized as familiar friends, just



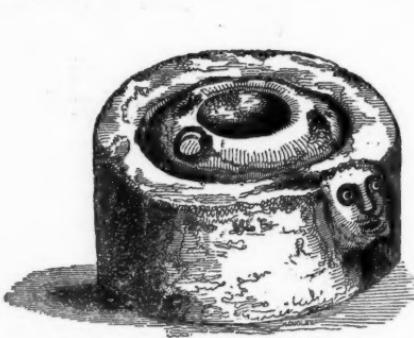
Spear-Head, peculiar in shape and ornaments.

as the illustrations of this article are those of the book itself, though



Varieties of Spear-Heads.

the author had no means of knowing the writer's estimate of his labours.



Ancient Pot Querne of Stone, similar to those described in the  
"Archæologia Cambrensis," No. V., New Series.

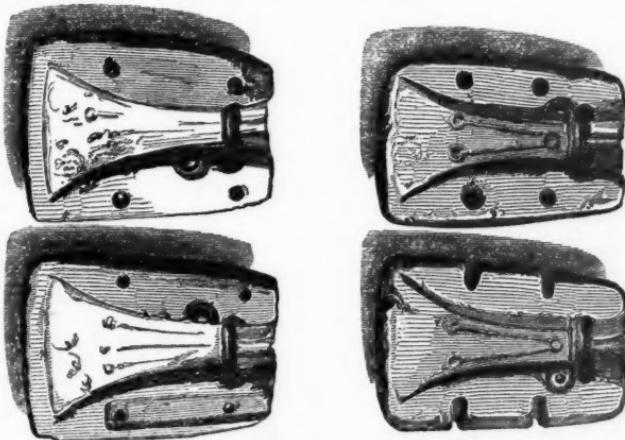


Bronze Celt—(see the Moulds).

In the fourth and last section, where one would expect plain sailing, the original investigator is met by difficulties almost as great as in the preceding ones. In the field where Pinkerton, Ritson, and Skene have laboured, we can, however, see evidences of the good seed which has been sown; and the time is coming when the story of "Crinan, Abthane de Dull et Seneschallus insularum," may have less of the mythic, and much more of the historic, about it, than at present. Father of a dynasty of kings, and lineal ancestor to some of the proudest and

noblest families on both sides of the border, his name stands almost on the confines of true history, as a landmark to the *terra incognita* of tradition and romance. On this period Mr. Wilson has touched briefly but skilfully, and then, by the aid of clearer lights, has followed down the stream of Scottish history through periods where doubt becomes changed into absolute certainty. Some of the chapters of this section treat of primitive and mediæval ecclesiology, and of ecclesiastical and mediæval antiquities ; and the illustrations come down so near to our own time, as to give us Mons Meg, thumb-screws, the "maiden," and the brank or bridle for scolds.

The following are other illustrations from various portions of the work :—



Celt Moulds.

From this brief account of the materials, and of the manner of grouping and describing them, our opinion of the work may be readily inferred. It is not only an *effect* of the circumstances of our own times—we hope to see it operate also as a *cause*. It is a national work, doing for Scotland at a single worthy effort, what the multitude are doing for England, Ireland and Wales, by a thousand minor efforts. Let us have some similar volume, or two volumes, of the same size and general character, in reference to the antiquities of England,—not the ponderous folios or quartos, whose price will put them far beyond the means of the middle classes, and whose circulation will therefore be confined to the few in whom wealth and good taste coincide, or whose "lines have fallen" near great libraries. The materials in Wales are hardly yet sufficiently available ; but when our Journal has existed for a few short years longer, some Cambrian Gamaliel will arise to arrange the fragments like the pieces of a dissected map, and, in a single volume, to give to the patriot of the

Principality a hand-book that will illustrate portions of almost every parish. In Ireland the harvest is abundant, and happily the labourers are not few. We look forward with pleasing anticipation to the period, probably not far distant, when Mr. Wilson himself, as a gentleman and a scholar, will be gladdened by seeing a similar book, brother and rival to his own. The work of Mr. Wakeman, although small, is not without its uses; but we look for the clearer light of Petrie, Betham, Todd, or some other, who, albeit he ride a little hobby of his own, is a capital horseman in the main. The mention of Dr. Petrie's name is suggestive, and the hint will express strongly and delicately our high sense of Mr. Wilson's labours. The university of Dublin honoured itself by enrolling the former among its graduate doctors, after the publication of his renowned work on the Round Towers of Ireland; and though the work before us is more of a compilation, and one of less originality of research, it still possesses ten times as much merit as has sufficed to elicit a similar honour occasionally from the learned members of the *senatus* who preside in "Auld Reekie."

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**WELSH SKETCHES, CHIEFLY ECCLESIASTICAL, TO THE CLOSE OF  
THE TWELFTH CENTURY.** By the Author of "Proposals for  
Christian Union." London: J. Darling.

This is a refreshing little work, full of information relative to the early history of Wales, entirely free from prejudice, and written in an attractive and popular style, as is the case with all the author's productions. The following extract may serve as a sample:—

"The bardic institutions were spread over England, Scotland, Ireland, France, and Germany, uniform in their leading principles, differing in detail according to local tradition and usages. I confine myself to bardism as it presented itself in Wales.

"That the powers of the mind were highly cultivated under the system I shall attempt to describe, abundant evidence will be given by and by; one valuable faculty, it suffices to say now, was assiduously cultivated and improved—memory. Not from inability to commit their ideas to writing—for the bards possessed a sacred alphabet—their doctrines and precepts were transmitted from generation to generation, treasured in the recollection of their disciples. In order to remember accurately, we ought to have the things put before us in a compact form. To this indispensable point remarkable attention was paid. The principle of the bardic *memoria technica* was the number THREE. This number has always been held in peculiar veneration. 'It forms,' as some philosopher has said, 'a kind of limit to the natural powers of repeated exertion, an idea so far, at least, founded in nature, as to have become a favourite with the poets of all ages.' Oral instructions cast into this mould received the name of Triads; a number of which, divided for convenience into different classes, as they relate to history, poetry, theology, ethics, and jurisprudence, are still extant. In the decline of bardism, memory less diligently cultivated was felt to be a precarious depositary. The Triads were therefore written down. The oldest MSS. are supposed to have been collected as early as the seventh century. Such was the opinion of a distinguished Welsh antiquary, Mr. Vaughan, of Hengwrt; but the testimony of the copyists of the Welsh MSS. does not go higher than the tenth century. The ancient Triads were principally collected during the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth centuries."—P. 2.

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THE PURSUIVANT OF ARMS; OR HERALDRY FOUNDED UPON FACTS.  
By J. R. PLANCHE, F.S.A. London: W. N. Wright. 1852.

To those who have in their possession Lower's *Curiosities of Heraldry*, we can strongly recommend the purchase of this volume of Mr. Planche's. His remarks and illustrations confirm some notes which appeared in our Second Volume, New Series, pp. 70, 73; though it is to be regretted that he has not in all cases referred to his authorities, which often bring out new facts on fresh inspection;—thus at p. 41, where his authority is given, his “scroll work” is described—*Archæologia*, V. 21, 208, as “a lion passant on each side” ornament; at p. 175, 176, he gives two of the A.D. 1301 crests alluded to in our Second Volume, p. 73; but at p. 174 he gives the crest of John Earl of Warren without his authority, which is not the third and only other one of 1301, and is therefore probably the seal of the John who died in 1347. We doubt the wyvern (a common ornament) there also given as having been a crest; it was referred to in our Second Volume; and here we observe no “contoise” as in the undoubted crests of 1301. It may be seen from these remarks that we consider his statement as to the early date of crests (*heraldic*) not to be founded on facts; and as to that of Richard I., referred to by him at p. 173, we would call attention to the similar ornaments pointed out by our correspondent. The earliest armorial design given is of 1164, p. 9; but at p. 74, he says that the seal of Ranulph Earl of Chester, who died 1155, had on it a lion rampant. At p. 104 his illustrations appear to settle the “Leopards’ heads jessant de lis” difficulty; but his authority for the seal is not given; that of 1301 had a *fesse vaire*. We would call attention to his idea of the double-headed eagle, p. 167, which is new to us, and more to be depended on than that given in Southey’s *Book of the Church*. It is curious that the escarbuncle at p. 128 resembles the board of the game called in Strutt’s *Sports and Pastimes* “Nine men’s Morris,” and which is found cut out in some of our sheep pastures, and called in Herts, “Mother Peg’s Bed,” and similar in the play to Strutt’s description, and as taught us by an Austrian. We regret that we have received no notice of earlier instances of the arms given in our *Ordinary*;—as an instance of arms which can be traced to their origin, we would point out in that list those under “Quarterly” of Dutton and Pontefract, and under “stags” of Rosindale; these three were no doubt in allusion to the arms of the Lacyes as barons of Halton, “quarterly, and a bend;” from which were also the Myddeltons of Lancashire, and others. See Whitaker’s *Whalley*, Gregson’s *Fragments*, and Baines’ *Lancashire*, in which latter, under Hulton pedigree, this John de Pontefract is called (in error no doubt) the Baron of Halton himself, Lacy, and the descent through Hulton to Peek, given in full. It may however, as further pointing to connexion, be observed that this baron died in 1178, leaving a daughter *Alice*, by his wife *Alice*; that the next Baron John died in 1240, leaving, as is stated, no issue by his first wife *Alice*, and that the daughter and heiress of John de Pontefract is *Alice*, in Baines’ *History of Lancashire*—

pedigree Hulton. We would suggest to our correspondent whether (supposing he is correct in deriving the family from Lancashire) the "checky" of Peek may not also refer to the Halton "quarterly," though we may remark that the arms, "*per saltire or and gules*" for Peke, approach nearer; and the latter may have been connected with Halton or Peek; the griffin (*Picus*) may have been meant as an instance of "armes parlantes." *Checky* and ermine have generally reference to the Earls of Warwick, in which county was a John de Pec ante 1307; but we know of no connexion between Denbigh and Warwickshire. Robert de Tateshall bore at Caerlaverock in 1300 or and gul. a chief ermine; he was of "Bukham." As a guide for students of heraldic MSS., we would mention that Mr. Planché points out the engraving of the death of Charles I. as the earliest instance in England of the use of lines for indicating "tinctures;" and we quite agree with him that the distinctions of helmets are comparatively modern. Guillim (1632 edition) has them.

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#### RECENT ARCHÆOLOGICAL PUBLICATIONS.

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*Collectanea Antiqua*, No. VI., Vol. 2. By C. Roach Smith, F.S.A. Contents:—

I. Roman Remains at Bonn and Cologne.—II. Unique and Unpublished Coin of Carausius.—III. Anglo-Saxon Remains. Seven plates and nine wood-cuts.

No. VII., Vol. 2. Contents:—I. Anglo-Saxon Remains.—II. The Roman Wall. Illustrated by seven etchings and ten wood-cuts. London: J. Russell Smith.

*Cottage Homes of England; or, Suggested Designs and Estimated Cost of Improved Cottage Erections.* By J. W. Stevenson. 5s. London: Houlston and Stoneman.

#### PREPARING FOR PUBLICATION.

*Will be Published 1st February.*—A Biographical Dictionary of Eminent Welshmen, from the earliest times to the present; with a Supplement, containing a Catalogue, methodically arranged, of all the books printed in the Welsh Language, or otherwise connected with the History and Literature of Wales. By the Rev. Robert Williams, M.A., Christ Church, Oxford, Perpetual Curate of Llangadwaladr, Denbighshire. 1 vol. 8vo. Llandovery: Rees. London: Longman and Co. (Nine parts have already appeared.)

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